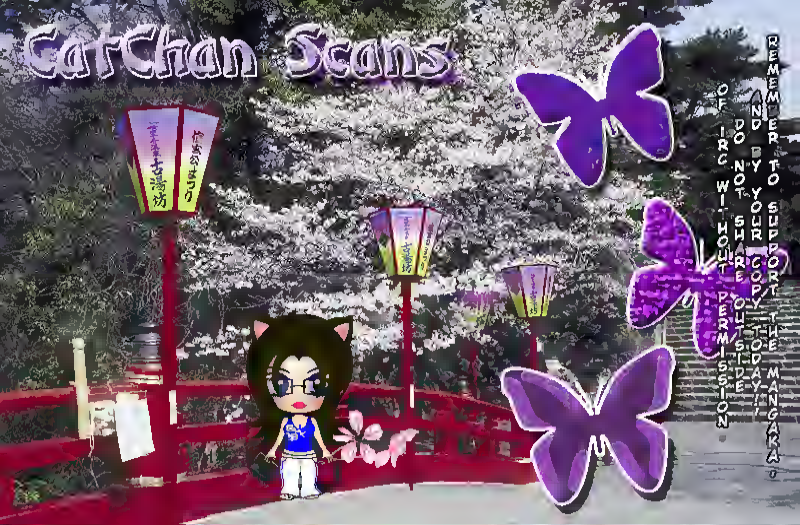

CatChan Scans
REMEMBER TO SUPPORT THE MANGAKA
AND BUY YOUR COPY OF THE GOD DAMN
DO NOT SHARE OUTSIDE OF IRC WITHOUT PERMISSION

7
TENSHI JA NAI!!
I'm No Angel!
Story & Art by
Takako Shigematsu

TENSHI JA NAI!!

TENSHI JA NAI!

I'm No Angel!

Volume 7

Story and Art by
Takako Shigematsu

go!comi

Translation –Christine Schilling
Adaptation – Brynne Chandler
Lettering & Retouch – Jennifer Skarupa
Editorial Assistant – Mallory Reaves
Production Manager – James Dashiell
Editor – Brynne Chandler

A Go! Comi manga

Published by Go! Media Entertainment, LLC

Tenshi Ja Nai!! Volume 7
© TAKAKO SHIGEMATSU 2006
Originally published in Japan in 2006 by Akita Publishing Co., Ltd., Tokyo.
English translation rights arranged with Akita Publishing Co., Ltd.
through TOHAN CORPORATION, Tokyo.

English Text © 2007 Go! Media Entertainment, LLC All rights reserved

This book is a work of fiction. Names, places and incidents are either a product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means physical or digital without permission in writing from the publisher.

Visit us online at www.gocomi.com
e-mail: info@gocomi.com

ISBN 978-1-933617-27-5

First printed in June 2007

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Manufactured in the United States of America

TENSHI JA NAI!!

CONTENTS

SCENE 31..... 9
SCENE 32..... 47
SCENE 33..... 81
SCENE 34..... 115
SCENE 35..... 153
Extras 191
Translator's Notes 193

THIS STORY IS PURELY FICTION. THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO CONNECTION TO ACTUAL PEOPLE, ORGANIZATIONS, OR EVENTS.

VOL. 7

Concerning Honorifics

At Go! Comi, we do our best to ensure that our translations read seamlessly in English while respecting the original Japanese language and culture. To this end, the original honorifics (the suffixes found at the end of characters' names) remain intact. In Japan, where politeness and formality are more integrated into every aspect of the language, honorifics give a better understanding of character relationships. They can be used to indicate both respect and affection. Whether a person addresses someone by first name or last name also indicates how close their relationship is.

Here are some of the honorifics you might encounter in reading this book:

-san: This is the most common and neutral of honorifics. The polite way to address someone you're not on close terms with is to use "-san." It's kind of like Mr. or Ms., except you can use "-san" with first names as easily as family names.

-chan: Used for friendly familiarity, mostly applied towards young girls. "-chan" also carries a connotation of cuteness with it, so it is frequently used with nicknames towards both boys and girls (such as "Na-chan" for "Natsu").

-kun: Like "-chan," it's an informal suffix for friends and classmates, only "-kun" is usually associated with boys. It can also be used in a professional environment by someone addressing a subordinate.

-sama: Indicates a great deal of respect or admiration.

Senpai: In school, "senpai" is used to refer to an upperclassman or club leader. It can also be used in the workplace by a new employee to address a mentor or staff member with seniority.

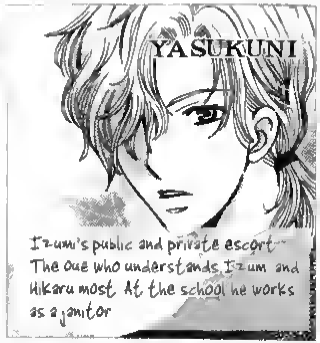
Sensei: Teachers, doctors, writers or any master of a trade are referred to as "sensei." When addressing a manga creator, the polite thing to do is attach "-sensei" to the manga-ka's name (as in Shigematsu-sensei).

Onii: This is the more casual term for an older brother. Usually you'll see it with an honorific attached, such as "onii-chan."

Onee: The casual term for older sister, it's used like "onii" with honorifics.

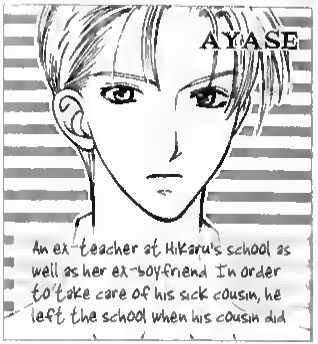
[blank]: Not using an honorific when addressing someone indicates that the speaker has permission to speak intimately with the other person. This relationship is usually reserved for close friends and family.

The president of the agency Izumi is a part of. Since he's a friend of Izumi's dad, he understands Izumi's situation of having to be a girl. Quite conniving.



Izumi's public and private escort. The one who understands Izumi and Hikaru most. At the school he works as a janitor.

Hikaru's sempai. She's in love with her cousin, Ayase, and so was Hikaru's rival. In order to recuperate from her illness, she had to leave school.

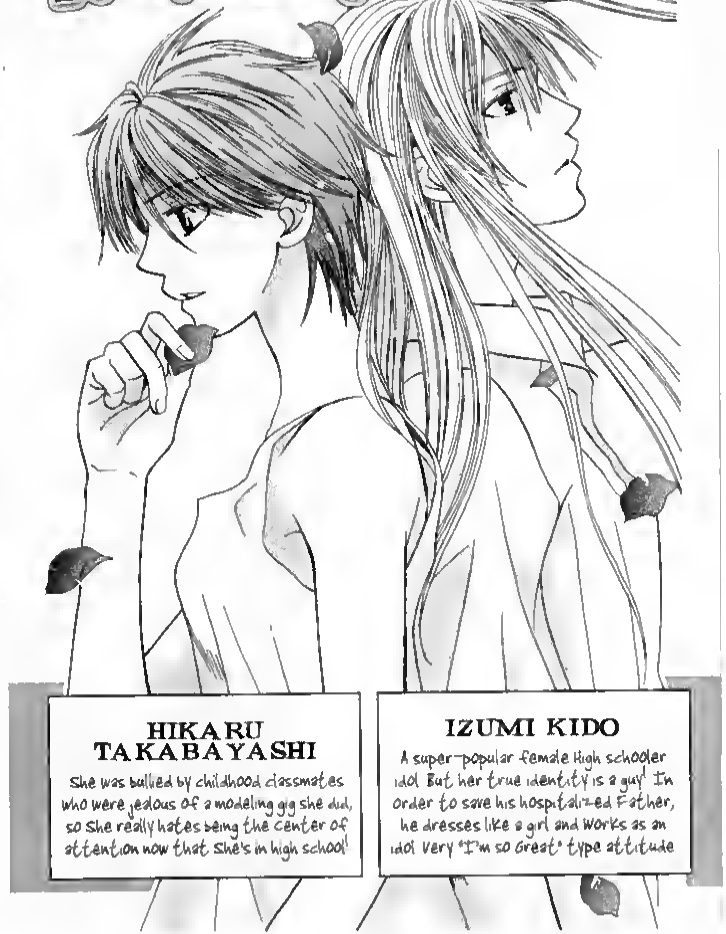


An ex-teacher at Hikaru's school as well as her ex-boyfriend. In order to take care of his sick cousin, he left the school when his cousin did.

★Hikaru Takabayashi left her parents to live in the dorm of her all-girl's high school. She hates being the center of attention, so was horrified to find that her roommate is the super-popular high-school idol, Izumi Kido! What's worse is that Izumi's not even a girl! Once she finds out Izumi's secret, Hikaru gets pulled into helping the star at work.
★To make things even more complicated, Hikaru fell in love with the school's music teacher, Ayase. She confessed her feelings to him and they become lovers. But, when he leaves school, their relationship ends.
★Having fallen in love with Hikaru, Izumi continues to cheer Hikaru on with mixed feelings. When Hikaru starts to return Izumi's feelings, they kiss, and then ?

TENSHI JA NAI!!

Story so far & introduction to our characters



HIKARU TAKABAYASHI

She was bullied by childhood classmates who were jealous of a modeling gig she did, so she really hates being the center of attention now that she's in high school!

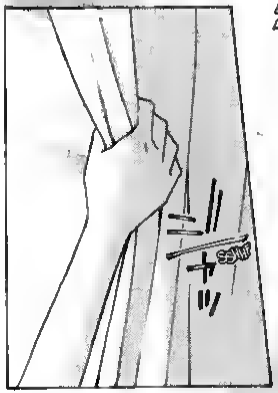
IZUMI KIDO

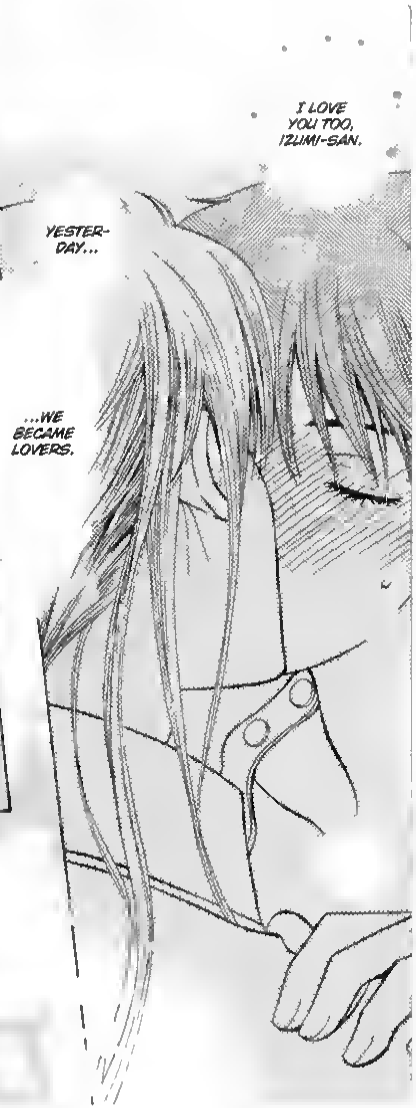
A super-popular female high schooler idol. But her true identity is a guy! In order to save his hospitalized Father, he dresses like a girl and works as an idol. Very "I'm so great" type attitude.

TENSHI JA NAI!!
I'm No Angel!

OOH... MORNIN'.
YAWN
MORNING, IZUMI-SAN.
HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
I'M FEELING A LOT BETTER

CHIRP
CHIRP


SIGH


I LOVE YOU TOO, IZUMI-SAN.
YESTER-DAY...
...WE BECAME LOVERS.

I OVERHEARD THE CHANGE IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP..
...OVER THE CELL PHONE, YESTERDAY IT WAS EASY TO GUESS WHAT HAD HAPPENED.
SHIFT
BRISK
BRISK
BRISK
TO ENSURE NOTHING ELSE HAPPENS TO MAKE YOU UNABLE TO FACE YOUR PARENTS, HIKARU-SAN.
...I HAVE MADE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS.
A-ARRANGEMENTS...
LUCKILY THERE'S AN OPENING IN THE ROOM NEXT-DOOR.
HIKARU-SAN, I'M HAPPY THAT YOUR RELATIONSHIP HAS BLOSSOMED.
BUT...
...I RECEIVED PERMISSION FROM THE SCHOOL TO PUT YOU THERE, SAYING THAT IZUMI'S DISORDERLY LIFESTYLE WOULD INTERFERE WITH YOUR STUDIES.

DIFFERENT AS ALWAYS...
UM, YOU HAVE WORK TODAY, RIGHT?
...THIS DIFFERENT MORNING..
THE SAME AS ALWAYS...
KNOCK KNOCK
YEAH, IN THE AFTERNOON.
YASUKUNI-SAN.
EXCUSE ME.
HIKARU-SAN, I NEED YOU TO MOVE OUT OF THIS ROOM.

GASP
HEY, DON'T PUSH YOURSELF SO HARD
IZUMI-SAN!
UH... UM, LISTEN.
IZUMI-SAN, DO YOU REALLY WANT ME TO MOVE OUT?
Y-YEAH...
THIS IS THE LAST OF IT, RIGHT?

SHUT
TWO SECRETS... THAT'S RIGHT...
BUT... BEING IN SEPARATE ROOMS, NOW...
SINCE IZUMI-SAN WORKS SO LATE, THIS ROOM IS THE ONLY PLACE WE CAN BE TOGETHER.
NOW THAT WE HAVE TWO SECRETS TO PROTECT...
..WE HAVE TO BE TWICE AS CAREFUL.
CATCH
CLATTER
Sumikko's Toys
HAAH
SINCE IZUMI-SAN DIDN'T ARGUE AGAINST OUR BEING SEPARATED...

FLEE
LOSS OF NERVE
I REALLY NEED MY SLEEP!!

eep
K-CLICK
105
SLAM
IZUMI-SAN WAS TEASING ME!?
I SWEAR... I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M ROOMING WITH YOU...
THIS ISN'T FUNNY

HUH? CONTROL?
AND...
NOW THAT I KNOW YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO CONTROL MYSELF.
WELL YEAH, BUT
WELL, YOU'RE ONLY GOING NEXT DOOR. WE CAN STILL SEE EACH OTHER AS MUCH AS WE WANT.

PRESS
BUT YOU WON'T GET MUCH SLEEP.
IF YOU WANT, YOU CAN ALWAYS STAY.

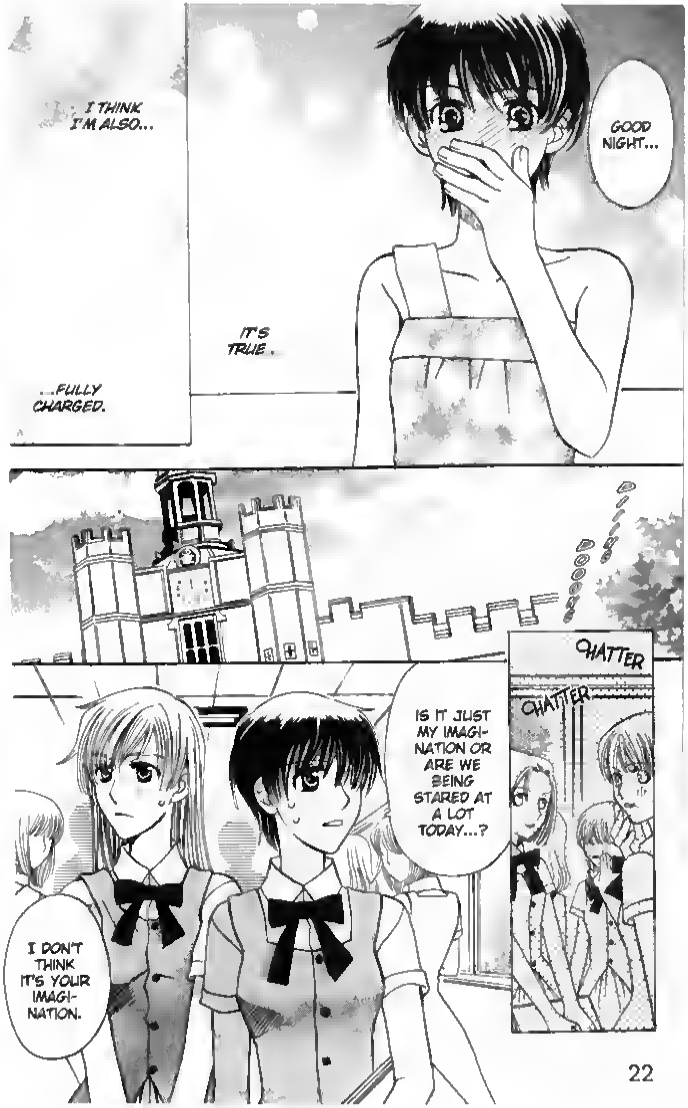
I...I THINK I WANT TO GO HOME...
HMPH.
SIGH
I... I'M SO TIRED...
IZUKI-SAN WAS LIKE THAT ALL DAY...
IT WAS SO MUCH BETTER BEING WITH IZUMI-SAN...

HMPH.
YOU'RE MY NEW ROOMMATE, IZUKI-SAN?
RRRRRIP
? ? ?
BLOCK
THIS IS MY SIDE OF THE ROOM SO DON'T CROSS IT, HEAR ME!?
AND I'M BUSY! DON'T BE TALKING TO ME ALL THE TIME!

FULLY CHARGED.
G'NIGHT.
NOBODY SAW.
I-ZUMI-SAN!! WHAT IF SOMEONE SAW US!?

KKRATTLE
YO...
GERR
OH, WELCOME HOME, IZUMI-SAN!
YEAH, GOOD TO BE BACK... NOT!
WHINE
WELL, I FIGURED YOU'D BE LONELY COMING HOME TO AN EMPTY ROOM, SO...
WHY'S SUMIKKO GOTTA STAY HERE WITH ME?
I-I'M SORRY, IS SHE A BOTHER?
Bark!
NO .. BUT LOOK, I'M NOT LONELY...
And she snores so loud.
PHEW
YOU TIRED?
.. A LITTLE, YEAH... BUT I'M OKAY.

THE ONLY ONE BEING STARED AT IS YOU, TAKABA-YASHI-SEMPAI.
AYUMU-CHAN!!
HOW ARE YOU DOING, IZUMI-CHAN?
CONGRATU-LATIONS ON GETTING THE ROOM TO YOURSELF.
WHY AM I THE ONLY ONE BEING STA--
PWAP
THIS!
"HABAKURO'S HABASHI CAGE 20) AND HIS RUMORED YOUNG GIRLFRIEND GOING SOME-WHERE!?"
IT'S TODAY'S "WEEKLY MISS "
A CLANDESTINE MEETIN
HABAKURO'S HABASHI AGE 2
AND HIS RUMORED YOUNG GI


GOOD NIGHT...
I THINK I'M ALSO...
IT'S TRUE.
...FULLY CHARGED.
DING DONG!
CHATTER
CHATTER
IS IT JUST MY IMAGI-NATION OR ARE WE BEING STARED AT A LOT TODAY...?
I DON'T THINK IT'S YOUR IMAGI-NATION.

I HEARD THAT THE THIRD-YEAR GIRLS ARE BRINGING IN SOME GUYS FROM THE BOYS' SCHOOL.
THE MOON CLUB'S TRYING TO STOP THEM, BUT... WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH PEOPLE.
SINCE IZUKI-SAN'S TAKING OVER FOR THE PRESIDENT WHILE SHE'S OUT WITH A COLD, I DON'T KNOW ALL OF THE DETAILS, BUT...
...I HEARD THAT SOME OF THE BOYS ARE EXTREME FANS OF YOURS, IZUMI-CHAN.
IZUMI-SAN'S BEING TARGETED?
I SAID YOU SHOULD FORGET ABOUT IT, IZUMI-SAN!

SHOCK
IT WAS THAT THING FROM BEFORE.
Oh, god. Oh, god.
I NEED TO TALK TO YOU, IZUMI-CHAN...
DON'T LEAVE YOUR ROOM TONIGHT.
IT MIGHT BE DANGEROUS...

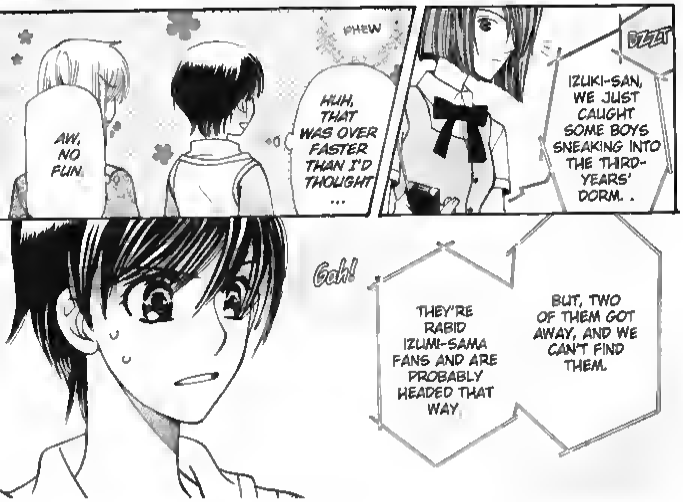
I'M NOT SENDING YOU AWAY.
I DON'T LIKE BEING PROTECTED BY YOU ALL THE TIME.
WORKING TOGETHER, WE CAN COME UP WITH A PLAN
HAVING YOU ALWAYS JUST PROTECT ME...I CAN'T TAKE IT.
IZUMI-SAN...
I UNDER-STAND.

IZUMI-SAN!
I'LL KILL THOSE CASANOVA WANNABES
STRETCH
I'LL DISGUISE MYSELF SO THEY WON'T FIND OUT WHO IZUMI KIDO IS
LISTEN TO ME! DISGUISING YOURSELF AS A GUY AGAIN... SINCE IZUKI-SAN ALREADY SAW YOU IT COULD BE BAD!
...DARN.
FINE... THEN I'LL JUST GO AS IZUMI KIDO AND GET THEM THAT WAY.
IZUMI-SAN!
THEY'RE TARGETING ME? THAT'S RATHER COCKY OF THEM.
AND JUST WHEN I THOUGHT I MIGHT BE LOSING MY EDGE...

IT'S BARELY SIX MONTHS SINCE AYASE-SENSEI DUMPED YOU, AND YOU'VE ALREADY GOT REPLACEMENTS ALL LINED UP.
LOOK, YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIKE ME...
...BUT YOU HAVE TO LET ME HELP.
THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERS ...
...IS KEEPING IZUMI-SAN SAFE.
HMPH
I GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE.

I HEARD ABOUT TONIGHT..
I WAS WONDERING IF IZUMI-SAN AND I COULD LEND A HAND.
WHAT DO YOU WANT? I'M BUSY.
YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE!
THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT, YOU KNOW.
SINCE YOU BROUGHT THAT GUY HERE..
...THE YOUNGER GIRLS WHO THINK YOU'RE "COOL" WANT TO COPY YOU.
YOU JUST LOVE MAKING TROUBLE, DON'T YOU?
I SAW YOU IN THE TABLOID-- YOU MUST BE SO PROUD!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

WELL, WHEN I WAS GOING TO BE EXPELLED, THEY CAME THROUGH FOR ME..
HUH...
TO KEEP THE RING-LEADERS FROM BEING EXPELLED..
THE MOON CLUB'S HANDLING IT
EVEN THOUGH THEY DON'T LIKE ME...
SPIN
What're you dilly-dallying for?
COME ON! LET'S GO!


PHEW
AW, NO FUN.
HUH, THAT WAS OVER FASTER THAN I'D THOUGHT...
BZZZT
IZUKI-SAN, WE JUST CAUGHT SOME BOYS SNEAKING INTO THE THIRD-YEARS' DORM.
Geh!
THEY'RE RABID IZUMI-SAMA FANS AND ARE PROBABLY HEADED THAT WAY
BUT, TWO OF THEM GOT AWAY, AND WE CAN'T FIND THEM.

THEY'LL BE WATCHED BY THE THIRD-YEAR SEMPAIS
...AND ALL THE DOORS IN OR OUT OF THE THIRD-YEARS' DORM HAVE HAD A NETTING INSTALLED OVER THEM
THE TROUBLE-MAKERS' ROOMS...
Yes, ma'am!
UM, EXCUSE ME...
WE'LL INCREASE THE WATCH IN THE SECOND-YEARS' DORM.
WE'VE SEARCHED OUT ALL POSSIBLE WAYS FOR THE BOYS TO GET IN
YOU IDIOT!
IF ANY TEACHERS FOUND OUT, THEY'D TURN THIS INTO A HUGE CRISIS.
YOU SAID YOU'RE SHORT-HANDED, SO CAN'T THE TEACHERS HELP?

DRAG
DRAG
COME ON, WE'RE GOING TO THE MANAGER'S OFFICE.
HUH!? WAIT A--
OKAY, WE'LL GO ON PATROL.
AH...
GLARE
WHAT IS IT, NOW!?
UH... WELL...
I WAS JUST THINKING MAYBE WE SHOULD WATCH IZUMI-SAN'S ROOM...
SINCE THEY MIGHT TRY TO TAKE SOME OF HER STUFF...
FRIDAY
THAT'S A GOOD POINT.
LET'S GO!
R-RIGHT

NOW, SUMIKKO! GO FIND THE BOYS! FIND BOYS!!
HMPH
HIKARU ?
I HAVE AN IDEA
WAIT!
DID EVERYONE HEAR THAT? WE HAVE TWO BOYS ON THE LOOSE! TEAMS OF TWO SEARCH FOR THEM!
CHOMP
S-SUMIKKO!! I SAID "BOY"!
Ow ow!
Sorry, guys.
ANYWAY, YOU SHOULD STAY OUT OF SIGHT, KIDO-SAN.
Here's one!

K-CLICK
THIS IS IT, RIGHT?
SNEAKY, SECRET RELATION-SHIPS, HUH?
I'LL MAKE SURE IT'S ALL CLEAR INSIDE
YOU KEEP WATCH OUT HERE.

K-CLICK
I HOPE THOSE BOYS HAVEN'T BROKEN IN...
IS EVERY-THING ALL RIGHT?
YEP. ALL SAFE IN HERE

CLICK
CLICK
IZUMI-SAN, I HOPE YOU CAN BE GOOD AND LAY LOW.
...I'M SORRY.
HUH?
FOR WHAT I SAID... ABOUT YOU AND AYASE-SENSEI.
I'M NOT BEING SARCASTIC I'M REALLY WARNING YOU.
SNEAKY, SECRET RELATIONSHIPS NEVER LAST LONG.
IT'S BARELY SIX MONTHS SINCE AYASE-SENSEI DUMPED YOU...
OH, YEAH... IT'S OKAY.

SO THIS IS IZUMI-CHAN'S ROOM, EH?
HEY! I FOUND HER PANTIES! HER PANTIES!
WE COULD SELL THEM...
HEY, WHAT'S THE MA--
!!
WHAM
GET YOUR FILTHY HANDS OFF IZUMI-SAN'S THINGS!
TCH! GUESS WE'LL HAVE TO KEEP YOU QUIET FOR A WHILE TOO--!
LEAP!
AND ANOTHER THING...
BASH
BROOM
IZUKI-SAN ISN'T STUPID ENOUGH TO CHECK A ROOM WITH THE LIGHTS OFF!

OKAY, I'LL GO CHECK THE OTHER ROOMS
YEAH... REAL GOOD...
PHAT!
YEAH...? THAT'S GOOD.
YEAH, SHE LEFT.
SHE GONE?
WHISPER
WHISPER
!!
THUD
STICK HER IN THE BATHROOM.
THERE WE GO NICE AND TIGHT.
YOU STAY QUIET AND WE WON'T DO ANY-THING TO YOU.

EEEEEEK
IZUMI-SAAAAAN!!
NO!
SHUT UP! QUIET, YOU LITTLE...!

STERN
AND JUST SO YOU KNOW, OUR GYM TRAINING INCLUDES KARATE.
WHACK
IZUKI-SAN WOULD NEVER SMILE AT ME!
DON'T TOUCH ME!! I'LL SCREAM!
WITH A PHOTO OF HER FACE IT'D SELL BIG IN THE BURUSERA*
HEY, LET'S GET A PAIR OF PANTIES FROM THIS GIRL, TOO!
MESSING WITH BOYS WILL HURT YOU MORE THAN US, YOU KNOW!
GREAT IDEA!
!!
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MANY GIRLS YOU'D NEED TO STOP US?
OH, NO!!
*SEE TRANSLATOR'S NOTES

SHOVE
HEY!
STEP
CRACK
STOMP
YOU GO TO SLEEP.

WHO'S THERE!?
THUD
SMACK
WHAT THE ...!?
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO'S HERE
GET YOUR FILTHY HANDS OFF HIKARU

THAT YOU CALLED MY NAME.
IT WAS THE FIRST NAME I THOUGHT OF...
IZUMI-SAN, I'M WORRIED...
...ABOUT OUR RELATION-SHIP...

HIKARU, ARE YOU OKAY?
IZUMI-SAN. YEAH, I'M OKAY.
THANKS FOR SAVING ME.
HARD TO IGNORE A CRY FOR HELP THAT LOUD.
AND...
I WAS VERY HAPPY.
OH... I'M SORRY I HOPE I DIDN'T MAKE ANYONE SUSPICIOUS OF YOU...
NAH. I TOLD THEM YOU TOOK CARE OF THOSE GUYS, HIKARU.

SO...
SINCE I HAVE TO KEEP MY FEELINGS HIDDEN...
...I WANT TO KEEP THEM FROM BUILDING UP AND SPILLING OVER BY NEVER HIDING THEM FROM YOU, IZUMI-SAN.
HUG
THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY, YOU SILLY.

IZUMI-SAN, YOU HAVE SO MANY SECRETS.
AND WE HAVE TO HIDE OUR TRUE FEELINGS FROM SO MANY PEOPLE.
I WONDER HOW LONG WE CAN STAY TOGETHER LIKE THIS...
BUT JUST LIKE I COULDN'T HELP CALLING YOUR NAME..
...I CAN'T HELP LIKING YOU SO MUCH, IZUMI-SAN.
I THINK MY FEELINGS WILL JUST SPILL OUT ANY SECOND...
AND THAT MIGHT PUT YOU IN JEOPARDY, IZUMI-SAN...
HIKARU...

SCENE 32

HAVE I BEEN MAKING HER WORRY?

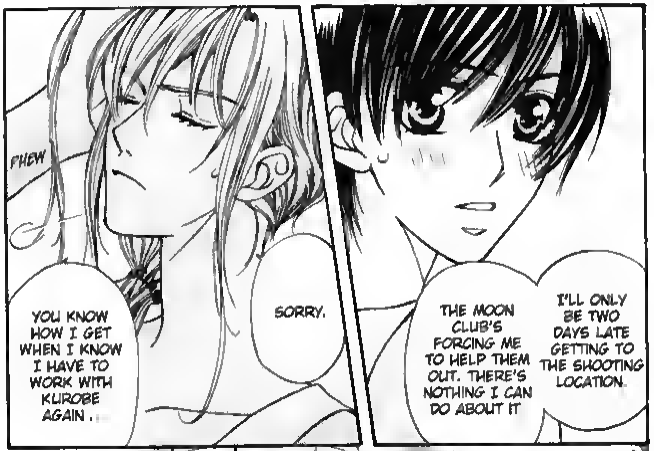
I-IZUMI-SAN, SOMEBODY WILL SEE US.

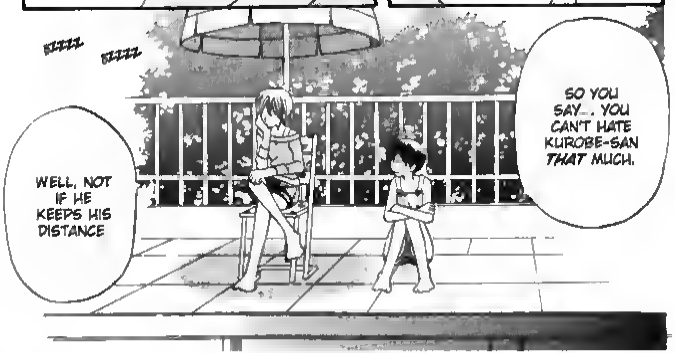
I DON'T CARE!

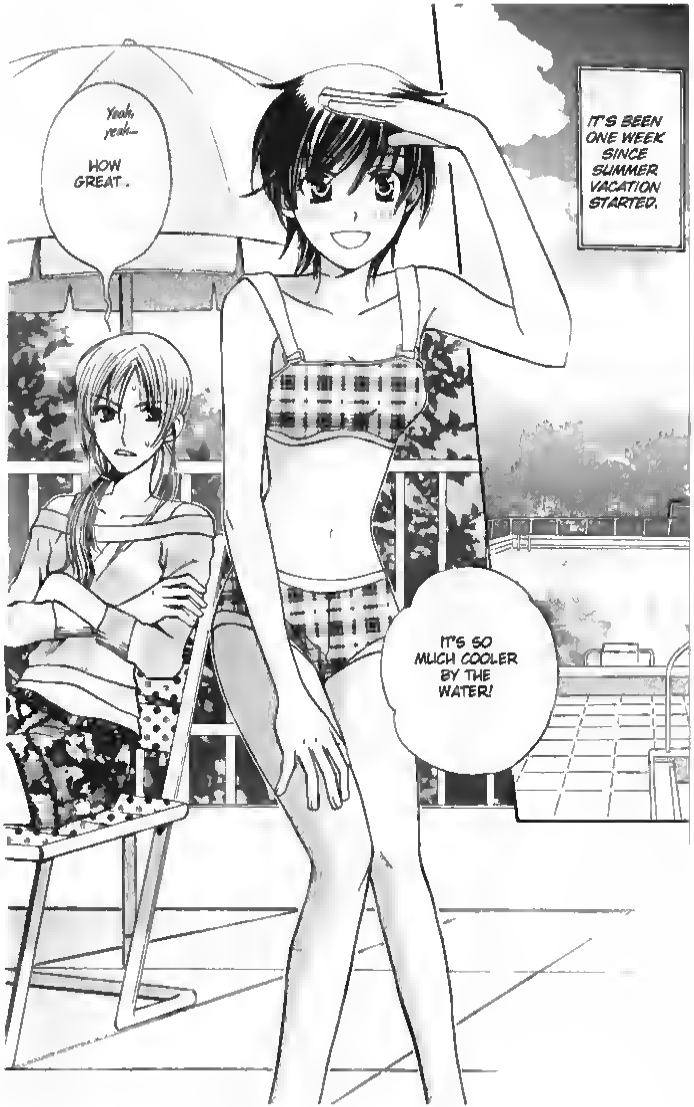
IZUMI KIDO'S HUGGING HIKARU FOR HAVING SAVED HER.

End of Scene 31

DON'T GET ALL HOT AND GROUCHY..
GRUMBLE
GRUMBLE
YOU DON'T HAVE TO STOP JUST TO COME TO WORK WITH ME TOMORROW.
GO AHEAD. HAVE FUN... FOR US BOTH.
GRUMBLE


PHEW
YOU KNOW HOW I GET WHEN I KNOW I HAVE TO WORK WITH KUROBE AGAIN...
SORRY.
THE MOON CLUB'S FORCING ME TO HELP THEM OUT. THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT IT
I'LL ONLY BE TWO DAYS LATE GETTING TO THE SHOOTING LOCATION.


SIIII
SIIII
WELL, NOT IF HE KEEPS HIS DISTANCE
SO YOU SAY... YOU CAN'T HATE KUROBE-SAN THAT MUCH.

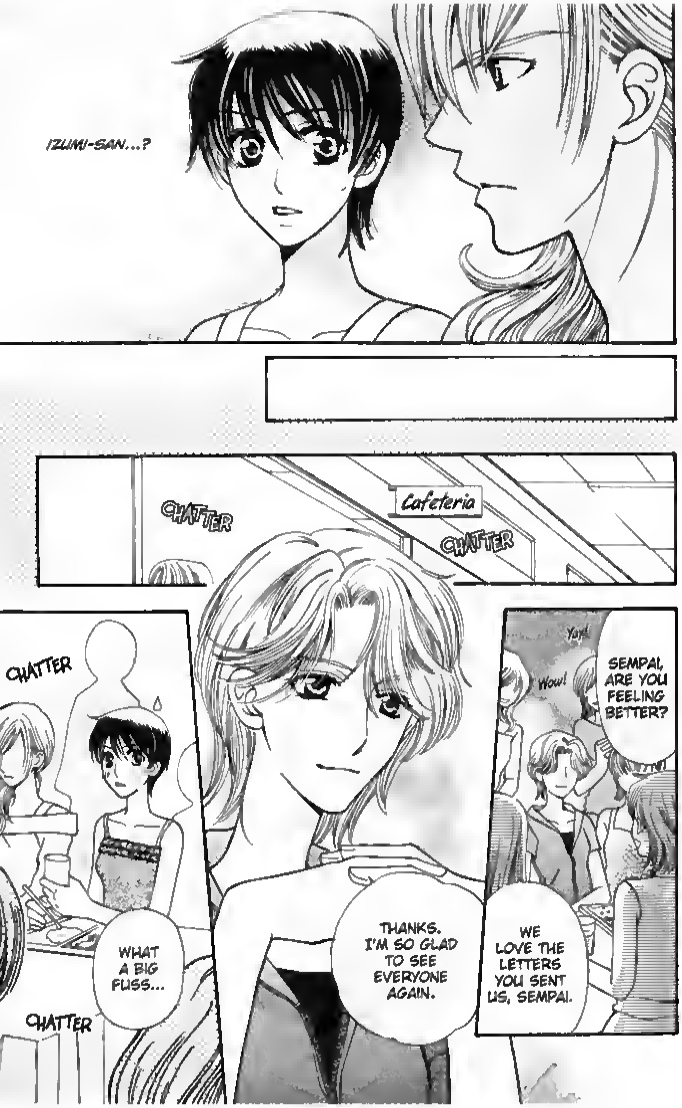

IT'S BEEN ONE WEEK SINCE SUMMER VACATION STARTED.
Yeah, yeah...
HOW GREAT.
IT'S SO MUCH COOLER BY THE WATER!

Hee hee.
OH, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SWIM, IZUMI-SAN?
YEAH, I CAN'T RISK GETTING SUN-BURNED.
BBBBT
WELL, I'LL GO GET US SOME DRINKS OR SOME-THING.
YEAH ..
IT MUST BE HARD BEING A CELEBRITY.
OH, IZUMI KIDO-SAN!
!?
GRUMBLE
GRUMBLE
SHE JUST ISN'T WARY ENOUGH AROUND GUYS...
HIRIN
HAAH ...
THAT HIKARU... SHE JUST DOESN'T GET IT.

LISTEN
HABASHI WILL BE COMING TO THE FILMING, TOO.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO NEEDS TO MAKE SURE YOU DON'T GIVE HIM AN OPENING.
I-I DON'T GIVE HIM OPENINGS!
YOU TEND TO GET SWEPT UP IN THINGS, THAT'S ALL.
HIKARU-SAAAAN!
TH-THAT'S NOT TRU--
POKE POKE
Ow ow ow!
JUST BE PREPARED! PREPARED!
I'M SORRY I'M LATE.
CHANGING TOOK LONGER THAN I EXPECTED.
OH, CHISATO-SAN.

!
IZUMI-SAN, WHAT'S TAKING SO LONG?
SEN-SEI..
...TAKA-BAYASHI.

AYASE...!!
LONG TIME NO SEE.
SINCE I WAS IN THE AREA, I GOT NOSTALGIC AND DROPPED BY.


IZUMI-SAN...?
Cafeteria
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
WHAT A BIG FUSS...
CHATTER
THANKS. I'M SO GLAD TO SEE EVERYONE AGAIN.
Yay!
Wow!
SEMPAI, ARE YOU FEELING BETTER?
WE LOVE THE LETTERS YOU SENT US, SEMPAI.

!!
YANK
IZUMI-SAN...?
YES I AM, THANK YOU.
YOU'RE LOOKING WELL, KIDO.

THOUGH THEY WON'T BE USING SUMMER AS THE BACK-DROP--
HIKARU
YOU AND I STARTED GOING OUT...
...WHEN AYASE LEFT.
WHAT'S... THE MATTER, IZUMI-SAN?
NOTHING... I WAS JUST THINKING...

I WONDER WHAT... IZUMI-SAN THINKS OF ALL THIS
I NEVER EXPECTED TO SEE SENSEI THIS SOON.
OH I'LL GO TOO THEN.
I HEARD IT'LL BE BY THE OCEAN
I CAN'T WAIT FOR THE UP-COMING SHOOT.
SORRY... I'M NOT VERY HUNGRY.
IZUMI-S/N?

I WONDER IF IT'S BECAUSE...
LISTEN.
ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN'T COME TO WORK WITH ME TOMORROW?
YEAH... I'LL COME.
I'LL GET SOMEONE TO COVER FOR ME TOMORROW MORNING.
I HAD NO ANSWER TO WHAT IZUMI-SAN SAID EARLIER...
EVEN THOUGH I'M HOLDING ONTO HIM SO HARD...
...I'M STILL SO WORRIED...

IF AYASE HADN'T GONE BACK TO SAKON...
—HOW WOULD THINGS HAVE TURNED OUT...?
TH-THAT...
LET'S GO BACK TO THE ROOM.
SURE...
I'M SORRY... FOR SOUNDING WEIRD...
N-NOT AT ALL.
.....

--YES.
.. ARE YOU DOING WELL?
MINORI?
I KNEW IT.
MINORI, STOP IT.
EVEN WHEN I WAS IN THE HOSPITAL, I HEARD ALL ABOUT IT.
YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON?
OH.. SEMPAI. GOOD MORNING.

CHIRP CHIRP
TAKABA-YASHI?
LET'S SEE, I'VE GOT TO TELL IZUKI-SAN AND AYUMU-CHAN I'M GOING, THEN...
She's gonna be so mad...
MORNING... BUT I'M NOT YOUR SENSEI ANYMORE
OH, SENSEI. GOOD MORNING.

BEHAVE YOURSELF, MINORI!
GRAB
SEMPAI, THAT--
WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN TAKABAYASHI AND ME IS OUR BUSINESS...
FROM THE PAST.
SEN-SEI...
JERK
LET GO OF ME!
AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, SHOULDN'T YOU BE RESTING IN BED?
I'M NOT A CHILD.
I CAN GET TO BED BY MYSELF.

I KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU AND TSUKASA-NII-SAMA GOING OUT IN SECRET!
IS THIS THE SAME SAKON-SEMPAI?
I WILL WIN HIS LOVE, NOT AS HIS LITTLE SISTER, BUT AS A GROWN-UP WOMAN.
ARE YOU HURT?

I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE IT...
NOT JUST HER REACTION TO ME, BUT...
..SAKON-SAN TAKING THAT ATTITUDE WITH SENSEI...
I WONDER IF SOMETHING HAPPENED BETWEEN THEM..
HIKARU.
IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH US

NO PROB-LEM..
...I'M SORRY, TAKABA-YASHI
WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE?
THAT'S NOTHING FOR YOU TO WORRY ABOUT.
MORE IMPORTANTLY, ARE YOU PACKED?
AKIZUKI'S PICKING US UP AT NOON
Y-YEAH... BUT...

Zzzz
Ready for take off
LET'S SEE, I'VE GOT MY BATHING SUIT AND THREE PAIRS OF UNDER-WEAR...
THUD
CLUNK
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
I don't wannaaa!
SUMIKKO .. YOU'RE GOING WITH YASUKUNI-SAN.
SHOCK
TAKABAYASHI-SAN! WHAT'S THIS ABOUT HANDING OFF YOUR WORK TO ME!?
BAM

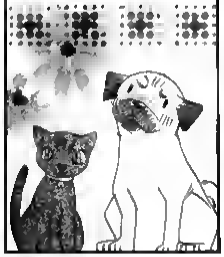
...YEAH.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
WHATEVER'S GOING ON BETWEEN THOSE TWO IS FOR THEM TO FIX.
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.

Greetings

To those I'm meeting for the first time and those I haven't seen in a while, hello! Thank you for picking up "Tenshi Ja Nai!!" volume 7. Already the 7th volume... The story will be reaching the end very soon...

We're getting very close to the climax.

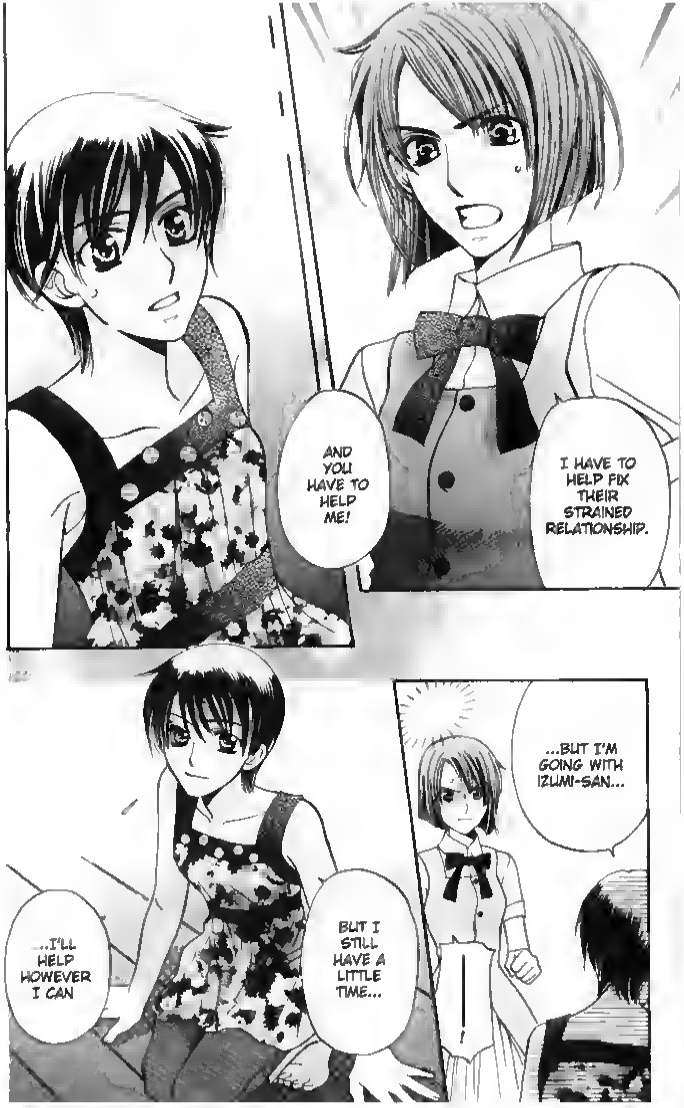
From here on in I'll be more and more diligent, so please stick with Hikaru and Izumi to the very end!



KNOWING HOW SEMPAI FELT ABOUT SENSEI...
...WHEN SHE HAD TO LEAVE SCHOOL ...
...I COULDN'T STAND SEEING YOU AND SENSEI GETTING CLOSER...
...SO I MADE SURE THAT SEMPAI WOULD COME BACK RIGHT AWAY BY...
...SENDING HER A LETTER ABOUT YOUR CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH SENSEI...
BUT I WAS STUPID... I NEVER THOUGHT SHE'D TRY TO COME BACK WHILE SHE'S STILL SO SICK.
IZUKI-SAN...

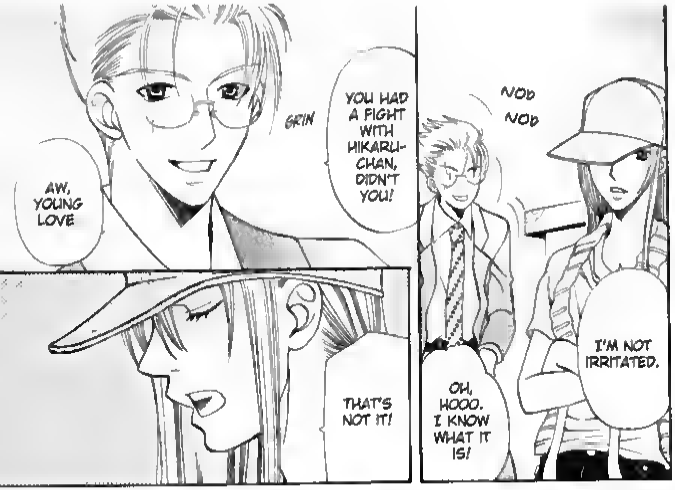
IT'S BACKFIRED. ALL OF IT...
WHAT I DID TRYING TO HELP BRING THEM CLOSER.
IT'S ALL MY FAULT.
HOW WOULD IZUKI-SAN KNOW SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
HUH?

GET SENSE! TO TELL YOU HIS SIDE OF IT..
...AND I'LL DO THE SAME WITH SEMPAI.
GOT IT.
AND ALSO...
I OWE YOU ONE.
!
OKAY.
PHEW
SHIN
WAAA
HERE I GO!


I HAVE TO HELP FIX THEIR STRAINED RELATIONSHIP.
AND YOU HAVE TO HELP ME!
...BUT I'M GOING WITH IZUMI-SAN...
!
BUT I STILL HAVE A LITTLE TIME...
...I'LL HELP HOWEVER I CAN

I DON'T THINK I'M STRONG ENOUGH FOR HER...
I JUST CAN'T GIVE HER THE SUPPORT SHE NEEDS...
HER DOCTORS SAY SHE CAN BE MENTALLY UNSTABLE, SOMETIMES
NOW SHE'S SAYING SHE WANTS TO GO BACK TO THE HOSPITAL.
IF IT MEANS GETTING HER BACK THE WAY SHE WAS, I'M GLAD, BUT...
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
BUT IZUMI-SAN...

GOOD MORNING.
MORN-ING.
SENSEI.
TAKABA-YASHI?
HOW SHOULD I BREAK THE ICE?
?
U-UM... IS SAKON-SEMPAI'S HEALTH FAILING, AGAIN?
YEAH, THE SURGERY WAS A SUCCESS, BUT...
...HER POSTOPERATIVE PROGRESS HASN'T BEEN SO GOOD...


AW, YOUNG LOVE
GRIN
YOU HAD A FIGHT WITH HIKARU-CHAN, DIDN'T YOU!
THAT'S NOT IT!
NOD NOD
OH, WOOO. I KNOW WHAT IT IS!
I'M NOT IRRITATED.

HMM...
EH?
UNCLE HERE'LL GIVE YOU ADVICE.
THEN WHAT? SPILL IT.
YESTERDAY THIS EX-TEACHER NAMED AYASE CAME BACK.
AND, HE JUST HAPPENS TO BE THE GUY THAT HIKARU LIKED SIX MONTHS AGO.

IF I CAN HELP, I HAVE TO TRY...
GRIP
...IT IS MY BUSINESS...

ZZZZZ
ZZZZZ

WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU SEEM IRRITATED TODAY.

I MAY BE TOO SENTIMENTAL, BUT I...
..WANT SENSEI TO BE HAPPY!!

SPLASH
SO THAT IZUMI-SAN WILL UNDER-STAND.
HIKARU!
HAAH ...
IZUMI-SAN...
WHERE'S YOUR STUFF?
WHAT'RE YOU DOING OVER THERE?
SPLASH
SPLISH
I'VE GOTTA GO TELL HIM ..

Tok tok tok.
YOU'RE SO NAIVE
IRK
LOOK, IT'S NOT LIKE HIKARU HAS FEELINGS FOR HIM ANYMORE.
Hm hm.
I SEE.. SO THAT MAKES YOU UNEASY DOES IT, IZUMI-KUN?
THE THING ABOUT GIRLS IS THIS. THEY NEVER REALLY GET OVER PEOPLE THEY USED TO LIKE.
ESPECIALLY NOT A FIRST LOVE.
Not like I know this was her first love
TURN
IZUMI-KUN, WHERE'RE YOU GOING?
UH-OH...
I wonder if I teased him too far.
I CAN'T HANG AROUND YOU FOR TOO LONG..
HIKARU'S LATE, SO I'M GOING TO GET HER.

BUT, I'LL STILL BE THERE IN TWO DAYS WITH YASUKUNI-SAN LIKE WE PLANNED, SO--
IS IT...
...BECAUSE OF THOSE TWO?
YES...
I THINK SAKON-SEMPAI CAME BACK TO SEE ME...
I CAN'T JUST LEAVE HER NOW...
BECAUSE, IT'S NOT LIKE THE PROBLEM BETWEEN SEMPAI AND SENSEI HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME.
HOW HONORABLE.

WHATEVER. YASUKUNI CAN BRING YOUR STUFF.
WE'VE GOTTA HURRY OR--
PULL
I CAN'T GO WITH YOU TODAY.
IZUMI-SAN, LISTEN TO ME!

TENSHI JA NAI!
天使じゃない!!
SCENE 33

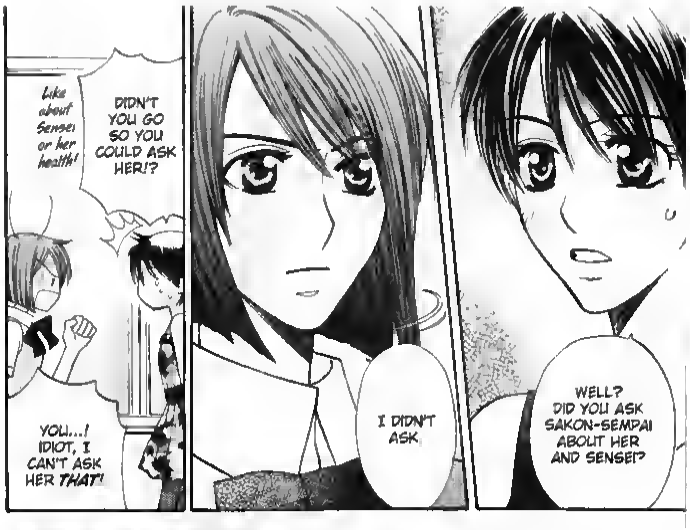
IZUMI-SAN!
DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.
End of Scene 32

AFTER ALL THAT... COULD I HAVE BEEN...
HAAH..
...SOMEHOW WRONG...?
OH.. IZUKI-SAN.
TAKABA-YASHI-SAN, PERFECT TIMING.
SEEING IZUMI-SAN MAKE THAT FACE AT ME...
Haaah...
SAKON-SEMPAI'S ALONE IN THE STUDENT COUNCIL ROOM!

IZUMI-SAN WAS ANGRY, BUT IT SEEMED LIKE HE WAS ALSO HURTING...
DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.

AH...
SAKON-SEMPAI...
TAKABA-YASHI-SAN

AAAAND SO BEGINS THE WWWWACKY TRIATHLON RACE!! GO!!!


Like about Sensei or her health!
DIDN'T YOU GO SO YOU COULD ASK HER!?
YOU...! IDIOT, I CAN'T ASK HER THAT!
I DIDN'T ASK.
WELL? DID YOU ASK SAKON-SEMPAI ABOUT HER AND SENSEI?

THEN WHY'D YOU EVEN GO!?
Huh? Eeh?
WHAT IF SHE HATED ME FOR IT!?
SAKON-SEMPAI'S MY IDEAL! I CAN'T ASK HER SOMETHING SO PER-SONAL!

!?
WHOA!
SHOVE
YOU ASK HER!

NOW THEN, IZUMI-CHAN, LET'S STAY ONE STEP AHEAD AND MAKE OUR WAY TO THE NEXT RELAY POINT
YES, LET'S GO.
YES, SIR!
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
ONCE YOU TWO ARE READY PLEASE HURRY TO THE CAR.
OKAY, CUT.
IZUMI-CHAN, THIS IS THE "AVERSION WITHOUT EVEN TRYING SHOWDOWN" TO BE HELD IN THE HOTEL AFTER-WARD.
AH, OKAY. I'LL HAND IT OVER.
THUMP
PHEW..

OOOOOKAY! AND THE PIRANHAS ARE OFF!
Yeah yeah yeah!
Wacky Triathlon
THUMP
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
ARE YOU GUYS CRAZY!?!?
You wanna kill us!?!?

SPLASH
SPLASH
KUROBE, ARE YOU NOT PULLING YOUR WEIGHT!?
You're the one who said we should do this!
I HATE GAMES WHERE YOU GET PUNISHED WHEN YOU LOSE!!
There's nothing funny about double-ended bungee stunts!
Wacky Triathlon
THAT'S RIGHT! BEFORE THAT...
AFTER THEY SWIM THEIR LAP UP AND DOWN THE POOL, THEY'LL COMPETE IN THE BICYCLE RACE. BUT FIRST, IZUMI-CHAN...
I WONDER, WHICH ONE LADY LUCK IS SMILING DOWN ON?
SPLASH
SPLISH
...WE'RE GOING TO PUT PIRANHAS IN THERE WITH THEM!
♡

STOP PRETENDING YOU CARE...
HUH?
I'M FED UP WITH...
...YOU AND AYASE-SENSEI FORCING YOURSELVES TO PITY ME.
U-UM... SEMPAI, HOW ARE YOU FEELING, HEALTH-WISE?
TH-THAT'S NOT TRUE... SENSEI AND I NEVER INTENDED THAT--
"SENSEI AND I"?
I GUESS I WAS WRONG FOR SAYING YOU'RE HIS EX-GIRL-FRIEND.
YOU CLAIM TO KNOW WHATEVER HE'S THINKING?
NO, THAT'S--

I CAN'T GO WITH YOU TODAY.
BECAUSE, IT'S NOT LIKE THE PROBLEM BETWEEN SEMPAI AND SENSEI HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME.
IZUMI-CHAN, HURRY UP.
AH, YES SIR!
SIGH
LET HER DO WHATEVER SHE WANTS!

I SWEAR... IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU...
!!
SMACK
SMACK
IT'S LIKE HE WAS NEVER REALLY WITH ME ..
SEMP--
YOU CAN HAVE AYASE-SENSEI
SE-SEMPAI!

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE COME HERE
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT IT'S LIKE TO KNOW THE PERSON YOU LOVE IS ONLY WITH YOU OUT OF OBLIGATION?
...NO MATTER WHAT I DID ..
NO MATTER WHAT SELFISH THINGS I SAID OR HOW MUCH I CRIED ..
...HE WOULDN'T TELL ME ANYTHING...

IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
WHATEVER'S WRONG BETWEEN THOSE TWO IS FOR THEM TO FIX.
IZUMI-SAN WAS RIGHT!
I GOT IN THE MIDDLE OF IT AND MADE SEMPAI MAD.
AND IZUMI-SAN'S MAD AT ME TOO...
IS THAT SO?
Junior's Room

SSHFFLE
!
SEMPAI!?
I loved you.
Hikaru Takabayashi
I THOUGHT ...
...I COULD DO SOMETHING.

PRIORITIES... EH?

YES, YASUKUNI-SAN'S BRINGING ME IN THE MORNING
REALLY? THAT'S GREAT!
YOU'RE COMING HERE TOMORROW?

I JUST... THOUGHT THAT MAYBE I COULD HELP...
THAT WAS A PRETTY CONCEITED THOUGHT.

WELL, I THINK THAT YOUR SOFT HEART IS A GOOD THING, HIKARU-SAN.
Y-YASU-KUNI-SAN?
STROKE
STROKE
WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS THAT YOU KEEP YOUR PRIORITIES STRAIGHT.

SLAP
ばし
CH-CLICK
Yeah!
OKAY! TIME TO GET READY FOR TO-MORROW!
SLUMIKKOOO! WHERE AAAAARE YOOOOU!?
WHY IS IT THAT SHE'S NEVER HERE WHEN IT MATTERS?
STARE

WHY... DO I HAVE A BAD FEEL-ING...?
THERE IS?
SEE, I'VE GOT SOME-THING I NEED TO ASK OF YOU, HIKARU-CHAN!
UM... IS IZUMI-SAN THERE?
WELL, IZUMI-KUN'S IN THE BATH RIGHT NOW AND CAN'T COME OUT.
UH, YEAH.
OH, IZUMI-KUN?
I.. SEE... OKAY...
I REALLY WANTED TO TALK TO HIM ..

TOMORROW I'M JOINING IZUMI-SAN AT HER WORK.
I SEE..

MUTTER MUTTER
I WON'T HAVE TIME TO LOOK FOR SUMIKKO TOMORROW, SO I NEED TO GET A HOLD OF HER NOW...
ALL MY STUFF'S PACKED ALREADY...
Heh heh...
ENOUGH ALREADY! STOP PLAYING AROUND AND COME OUT!!
DOG?
W-WELL, MY DOG'S ON THE LOOSE..
YEAH... UH...
SPRING
?
TAKABAYASHI, THAT YOU? WHAT'RE YOU DOING UP?
OH, SENSEI!

I'M TRYING NOT TO GET INVOLVED, BUT THINGS KEEP HAPPENING...
SHE HASN'T TAKEN HER MEDICINE AND NOBODY'S SEEN HER SINCE DINNER-TIME
ARE YOU SURE SHE DIDN'T JUST GO FOR A WALK?
O-OKAY
COME HELP US LOOK, TAKABA-YASHI-SAN.
WHY'RE YOU FOOLING AROUND NOW!?
GOT YOU!!!

TMP TMP TMP TMP
WELL, I'VE GOTTA FIND SUMIKKO ..
TAKABA-YASHI!!!!!
...THAT FELT GOOD...
PHEW.. SOME-HOW..
W-WHAT'S WRONG?
POHN!
WE'VE GOT A CRISIS!
OH, SENSE! YOU'RE HERE! IT'S AN EMERGENCY!
WHAT!?
SAKON-SEMPAI'S GONE MISSING!

KER SPLASH
WH-WHAT'RE YOU--
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
SPLASH! SPLASH!
EVEN IN SUMMER THE NIGHTS ARE COOL... YOU'LL GET A CHILL!
AND DON'T YOU NEED TO TAKE YOUR MEDICINE?
IT'S MY BODY I'LL DO AS I LIKE!!

S
S
H
SEMPAI!

S-SUMIKKO, CAN YOU FIND SAKON-SEMPAI?
RUSTLE
SNIFF SNIFF SNIFF
SNORT
SPLASH
THAT SOUNDS LIKE WATER ...?

I'M NOT SCARED OF YOU NOW AT ALL!
WHA--?
YOU'VE SLAPPED ME IN THE FACE BEFORE, BUT...
...YOU'RE TOO WEAK TO FIGHT BACK NOW, RIGHT?
YOU SPOILED BRAT!!
Ha!

I DIDN'T ASK THEM TO WORRY ABOUT ME.
AS YOU LIKE...? SENSEI AND IZUKI-SAN AND EVERYBODY'S WORRIED ABOUT Y--
FLUSH
SLAP
SHOCK

I'VE ALREADY BEEN REJECTED.
GASP
!
.....
WHY SENSEI'S BY YOUR SIDE, SEMPAI
SO I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED AFTERWARD
IF IT'S OUT OF SYMPATHY OR OBLIGATION...
...OR SOMETHING MORE THAN THAT..

YOU DON'T KNOW HOW I FEEL!
NO, I DON'T!
IT'S JUST LIKE YOU SAID.
YOU DON'T DESERVE WORRY OR SYMPATHY FROM ANYBODY!
YOU PITIFUL, MISERABLE, SPOILED BR--
BUT DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE..
...TO BE REJECTED BY THE ONE YOU LOVE MOST?

SAKON, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
TAKABA-YASHI!! LISTEN, YOU--!
...YEAH...
OKAY, I'M SORRY
GASP
T-TAKABA-YASHI-SAN!
I'M LEAVING EARLY TOMORROW SO I HAVE TO SAY GOOD-BYE HERE.
B-BUT ARE YOU REALLY OKAY WITH THAT? YOU--
TAKE CARE, YOU TWO.

RUSTLE
SAKON!
WAIT A SEMPAI!
EEEE
SEMPAI, WHAT'RE YOU DOING IN THE WATER? TAKABA-YASHI, YOU--!
YOU'RE HERE, FINALLY...
SPLASH
SPLASH
COME NOW, SEMPAI LET'S GET YOU OUT OF THE WATER.
Hurry now.
SEMPAI'S FINE
SHE'S WELL ENOUGH TO THROW A MEAN SLAP.

BECAUSE HE...
...IS ALREADY FAR OUT OF MY REACH.

...MEANS NOT LOSING SIGHT OF THE PERSON MOST PRECIOUS TO YOU.
I'M SURE THAT THAT...
I STILL HAVEN'T...
...LOST SIGHT OF IZUMI-SAN... HAVE IT?
WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS THAT YOU KEEP YOUR PRIORITIES STRAIGHT.

...TO BE WITH THOSE PRECIOUS TO YOU.
YOU HAVE TO GO QUICKLY..
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE

SQUEAL
VIP HOTEL
I'LL GET THE LUGGAGE.
YOU GO FIND IZUMI-SAMA, HIKARU-SAN.
UH, OKAY.
COME ON, SUMIKKO. LET'S GO.
WOOF
I HAVE TO APOLOGIZE TO IZUMI-SAN!
BOOM
なった!
!
CHATTER
CHATTER
HIKARU...

I-IZUMI-SAN...
U-UM... I, YOU SEE, IZUMI-SAN...
FLASH
NO GOOD, HIKARU-CHAN, YOU HAVE TO SMILE FOR ME.
Aaaaw...
Flash?

End of Scene 33

AND...
...THIS WAS SUCH A SHOCK I NEVER APOLOGIZED TO IZUMI-SAN ABOUT SENSEI...
BUT, I DON'T WANNA DO IT!
I HATE STANDING OUT!
I HATE AUDITIONS!
SHARING A CHANGING ROOM COULD BE DANGEROUS!
AND THE HOTEL ROOM MIGHT ALSO BE THE SAME ONE!
BUT IF I DON'T DO THE AUDITION, IT'LL PUT IZUMI-SAN IN A PINCH!!

A ha ha! Heh heh!
IT'S A BIG PROJECT BEING HELD IN COMMEMORATION OF THE LARGE COMPANY "EZ GROUP"'S 50-YEAR ANNIVERSARY.
TWO-PERSON TEAMS SHARE A CHANGING ROOM, SO I CHOSE YOU, HIKARU-CHAN.
UH...
TRMBL
TRMBL
"A LIMITED-TIME UNIT WITH IZUMI KIDO".
LIMITED-TIME UNIT YOU CAN BE A STAR!
AUDITION SPANNING COMMERCIALS, SOAP OPERAS AND OTHER DIVERSIONS, IT'S A PROJECT TO DISCOVER NEW TALENT. IT'LL TIE IN WITH THE POPULAR VARIETY TV SHOW "HABAKURO9".
"YOU CAN BE A STAR!" AUDITION?
OR THREE
K YOU.
DIRECTIONS

"That's right... Let's go to Uji!" *A Little Trip Diary*

In December 2005, it was just before a deadline that Shigematsu suddenly wanted to go to a famous teashop in Uji. So she pretended to finish her work and took her assistants with her to Uji. Even though by the Kyoto-Osaka train it's a distance that can be covered in half an hour... they didn't have enough time to fully explore Uji! See "Afterword" for the rest of the story.

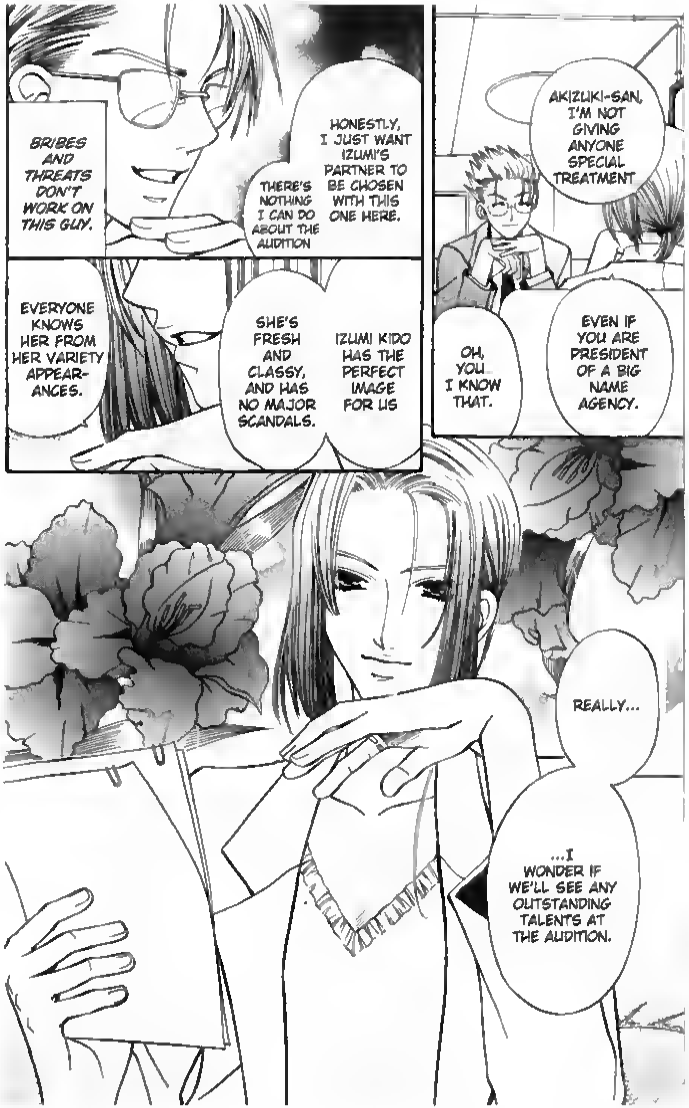
IT WORRIES ME THAT THE SCREENING CRITERIA IS A SECRET.
THAT'S AWESOME! SO THREE PEOPLE CHOSEN FROM THE TRAINING CAMP GO ON TO FINAL SELECTION ON TV!?
YOU'RE GOING TO A THREE-DAY AUDITION TRAINING CAMP TOMORROW!?
IRK
IRK
IRK
UGH, THEY'RE LOUD.
THE SPONSOR'S EZ GROUP... IT'S A REALLY BIG PROJECT.
AMAZING!! I'LL BE CHEERING YOU ON, TAKABAYASHI-SAN!
ME TOO, OF COURSE!
NO... WELL, BUT... THERE'S NO WAY I'LL WIN

S-SORRY!!
GASP
COME ON!!
HMPH!
CURTAIN
Izumi-san...
WAH WAH
KNOCK KNOCK
YES?
Yo!
HIKARU-SAN! WE HEARD YOU'VE GOT PERMISSION TO LEAVE.
BUT WEREN'T YOU GOING BACK HOME FOR SUMMER VACATION?
WE WANTED TO INVITE YOU ON A PICNIC TOMORROW.
CHISATO-SAN, MICHIRU-SAN...
I'M SORRY, I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO DO...

WE'RE GOING TO TRAINING CAMP, TOO...
...AND POLISH YOU UP SO THAT YOU CAN WIN!
HUH?
...S?
U..
SO, PRODUCER SAKURA, I'M LEAVING THIS GIRL IN YOUR HANDS
Hikaru Takabayashi
Jon Lot Girls' School
Sophomore
170cm
Weight 54 kg
Special Skill Walks

I'VE NEVER DANCED OR ARRANGED FLOWERS LIKE IN THE TRAINING CAMP'S SCHEDULE.
I JUST DON'T HAVE THE KIND OF SPECIAL STUFF YOU NEED TO WIN AN AUDITION.
YANK
PATHETIC! ARE YOU NOT A FLOWER OF OUR SEIKA ACADEMY !?
I- IZUKI-SAN
I HEARD YOUR LITTLE STORY.
TAKABAYASHI-SAN, IF YOU AUDITION IN THIS STATE YOU'LL BE A SHAME TO SEIKA!
LOOK, UH..
BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED WITH SEMPAI AND SENSEI, I OWE YOU ONE, SO..
THERE'S NO TWO WAYS ABOUT IT.

AT THIS THREE-DAY TRAINING CAMP...
...I'D LIKE TO GET A FEEL FOR EVERY-BODY'S QUALITIES FOR THE FINAL SELECTION.
SQUEAL
WHAT AM I DOING HERE?
IT'S SAKURA-SAN! I'VE BEEN A FAN SINCE HE SANG WITH L.E.D !
IF HE'S PRODUCING, IT'S A SURE HIT!
CHATTER
THERE ARE CAMERAS ALL OVER THE TRAINING CAMP, BUT DON'T LET THEM BOTHER YOU.
WHY ARE THOSE THREE STANDING THERE!?
AND ON TOP OF THAT .
PLEASE JUST BE YOUR-SELVES.


BRIBES AND THREATS DON'T WORK ON THIS GUY.
HONESTLY, I JUST WANT IZUMI'S PARTNER TO BE CHOSEN WITH THIS ONE HERE.
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT THE AUDITION
EVERYONE KNOWS HER FROM HER VARIETY APPEAR-ANCES.
SHE'S FRESH AND CLASSY, AND HAS NO MAJOR SCANDALS.
IZUMI KIDO HAS THE PERFECT IMAGE FOR US
AKIZUKI-SAN, I'M NOT GIVING ANYONE SPECIAL TREATMENT
OH, YOU... I KNOW THAT.
EVEN IF YOU ARE PRESIDENT OF A BIG NAME AGENCY.
REALLY...
...I WONDER IF WE'LL SEE ANY OUTSTANDING TALENTS AT THE AUDITION.

CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
SO THIS IS THE THREE-PERSON ROOM, EH?
PARDON ME.
OH, COME ON IN
OH, I'M HIKARU TAKABA-YASHI ..
Wow! She's so cute!
SO, YOU'RE SHARING THIS ROOM, TOO? MY NAME IS AI UEDA.
K-CLICK
S-SAME HERE.
IT'S JUST TEMPORARY, BUT I HOPE WE'LL BE FRIENDS.

ASSIS-TANTS?
I HEAR THE PRESIDENT OF EZ GROUP, THE SPONSOR, WAS ASKED TO HAVE HIS GRANDCHILD USED.
MOVING ON. I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE MY THREE NEW ASSISTANTS FROM THE NOTABLE SEIKA GIRLS' ACADEMY.
CLAP
CLAP
SMILE
THERE ARE FELLOW SEIKA STUDENTS AUDITIONING HERE
BUT NO ONE GETS SPECIAL TREATMENT! BEST REGARDS!
I SUSPECT THAT I'LL BE GETTING SPECIAL TREATMENT, BUT NOT THE WAY SHE MEANT..
SIGH...
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

CLAP
CLAP
ONE! TWO! ONE! TWO!
FIRST WILL BE WALK-ING.
STAAARE
THUMP
THUMP
UGH...WHEN I THINK ABOUT THE CAMERAS, I GET SO NERVOUS!
BACKS STRAIGHT, CHINS UP!
YOU THERE! DON'T HUNCH!
STANDING TALL AND GRACEFUL WILL IMPROVE YOUR DANCING.
I-I'M SORRY!
KEEP YOUR RIGHT ARM AND LEG OUT OF SYNCH!
STOMP
BACK STRAIGHT, CHIN UP...

WHOA ANOTHER REALLY CUTE GIRL.
SAME HERE!
I'M KINO-SHITA
I'M UEDA
I KNEW IT, ALL THE GIRLS AUDITIONING ARE REALLY PRETTY... THEY'RE FLOWERS! FLOWERS!!
I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR NEXT THREE DAYS TO-GETHER!
LOOKS LIKE I'M LAST
DROOP
NO MATTER HOW I LOOK AT IT, I DON'T FIT IN, HERE.
SHAKE SHAKE
EVEN IF IT'S CRAZY, I HAVE TO DO MY BEST!
BUT I HAVE TO TRY! FOR IZUMI-SAN'S SAKE, TOO...

OWIE...
S-SORRY...
DARN IT...!!
AND JUST AFTER SHE TOLD ME THESE GRADES ARE THE DECIDING FACTOR...!!
AND I HAVE NO IDEA IF IZUKI-SAN'S CHEERING ME ON OR WHAT.
YOU AGAIN!? TAKABAYASHI-SAN!!
HEH HEH
HEH HEH
YOU OKAY?
YEAH
YOU DID THAT ON PURPOSE!

WHISPER
ONLY THREE GIRLS WILL BE PICKED FOR THE FINAL SELECTION BASED ON THEIR GRADES HERE AT TRAINING CAMP!
WHISPER
HUH? REALLY?
1, 2...
HEY, DID YOU HEAR?
HUH!?
WHISPER
MUMBLE MUMBLE
1, 2, 3
1, 2, 3...
1, 2, 3
I can't do it without looking at my feet!
I'VE NEVER DANCED IN MY LIFE...
HUH!
YOU TALL GIRLS, TAKE THE MALE LEAD.
TRY NOT TO LOOK AT YOUR FEET.
!!
THUD
THUD
!!
SO, DON'T HATE ME FOR WHAT I'M ABOUT TO DO.
HUH?

BUZZZZ
NUMBER SEVEN'S GOOD, TOO.
IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'S MODELED BEFORE
THEY ALL BELIEVE THEIR GRADES HERE ARE THE DECIDING FACTOR.
NUMBER FOURTEEN, AI UEDA.
WHICH COMPLETELY NEGATES THE VERY ESSENCE OF A TRAINING
SHE JUST SPARKLES ON CAMERA... WITH A LITTLE TRAINING, SHE'LL BE GREAT.
THE GIRL MAKING THAT COMPLICATED FACE?
WHAT IS IT?
PFFT!
I BET HER LEGS FELL ASLEEP
LOOK, SHE'S IN THE TEA ROOM.
SORRY WE HAVE ONE GIRL WHO KEEPS MESSING UP

EVERYONE HERE, THEY'RE ALL LIKE THIS...
I HATE THIS.. THIS FEELING ..
HEH HEH
IRK
HEH..
OKAY EVERYBODY, BACK TO YOUR LESSON!
I MISS IZUMI-SAN...
I'D SAY THERE ARE TWO I HAVE GREAT HOPES FOR, SO FAR...

BLEEEEEEEEH.
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
THERE'S EVEN A CAMERA IN MY BEDROOM...
THE ONLY CAMERA-FREE ZONES HERE ARE THE RESTROOMS AND SHOWERS
WHICH IS WHY EVERYONE SAYS WHAT THEY HONESTLY THINK IN HERE.
THIS IS MY EIGHTH AUDITION. I ALWAYS GET PRETTY FAR.
SO YOU'VE HAD TO COMPETE THIS MANY TIMES? DOESN'T THAT JUST MEAN YOU'VE FAILED EIGHT TIMES?
WHAT DID YOU SAY!?
SINCE THEY HAVE TO HIDE THEIR TRUE NATURES IN FRONT OF THE CAMERAS.
...THE STRESS REALLY BUILDS UP...
OH, TAKABAYASHI-SAN!

AH, GUESSED RIGHT.
..THE OTHER GIRLS ARE AWARE OF THE CAMERAS AND EVEN PLAY TO THEM A LITTLE..
...BUT THIS GIRL HIDES FROM THEM, SO KEEPING ONE ON HER, WELL...
HUH...
OH... WELL, SORRY BUT WE CAN'T MOVE THEM.
AND...
YOU... CAN YOU KEEP A CAMERA ON THIS GIRL?
NUMBER FIFTEEN... AH YES, THE GIRL PRESIDENT AKIZUKI TOLD ME ABOUT...
FLAP
Hikaru Takabayashi
January 1st
Girls' School
Sophomore
170cm
Height: 54kg
SHE'S CERTAINLY NOT WHAT YOU'D EXPECT FROM SEIKA GIRLS' ACADEMY
SHE'S THE LEFT-OVERS?
WELL, THIS IS INTERESTING..

UEDA-SAN! TELE-PHONE!
OH, SORRY. LOOKS LIKE I'M BEING CALLED.
BEST LUCK TO US BOTH!
WHAT IS THIS? I FEEL SO SUFFO-CATED...
DASH!!
I WANT TO SEE IZUMI-SAN SO MUCH!
AND IF I CAN'T, I WANT TO BE ALONE.
IF I STAY HERE ANY LONGER, I'LL CHOKE!
UH-OH AM I ABOUT TO SEE ANOTHER TRUE NATURE?
STARE
WH-WHAT IS IT!?
YOU'RE SO LUCKY... BEING SO TALL
I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW CROWDED THIS BATHROOM IS.
UEDA-SAN... YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT.
SO THIS AUDITION IS MY TICKET TO A NEW DREAM.
YEAH?
AND YOU, TAKABA-YASHI-SAN? ARE YOU AIMING TO BE AN ACT-RESS?
WHO, ME!? NO...
I... USED TO BE A MODEL, YOU KNOW..
BUT I HAD TO GIVE IT UP. I'M TOO SHORT.

YOU STILL DON'T KNOW WHO I AM?
SHIFT
...YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW?
TURN
TH-THANKS!
D-DON'T KNOW WHAT!?
LOOK, IF YOU'RE DONE WITH ME, I'M LEAVING...

SNRG
AAH, THAT DOES IT! THIS DAY HAS KICKED MY BUTT!!
IT DOESN'T HURT?
HNRGH?
COUGH
Y... YOU...
DON'T YOU KNOW RUNNING IN THE DARK IS DANGEROUS?
YOU ARE WAY TOO STUPID.
SHE WAS... LAUGHING AT ME IN DANCE CLASS...
!?

IRK
H-HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT?
I WAS HAVING A REALLY ROUGH TIME!
VENT VENT
EVERYONE'S SO CUT-THROAT HERE! I HATE IT!
..THAT WAS BECAUSE MY PARTNER TRIPPED ME, OKAY!?
YOU LAUGHED WHEN I FELL AT DANCE CLASS, BUT...
I THOUGHT YOU OF ALL PEOPLE WOULD RECOGNIZE ME.
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN ME IN DISGUISE.
BEHIND THEIR PRETTY-FLOWER FACES, THEY'RE ALL UGLY INSIDE...
THAT'S JUST BECAUSE THEY'RE DESPERATE.
THEY SHOULDN'T TRIP PEOPLE, BUT THEY'RE JUST FRANTIC.
.....

WHA..
HUUH!?!?!
IZUMI-SA--
MMH!
YOU IDIOT! NOT SO LOUD! I'LL BE FOUND OUT!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, IZUMI-SAN?
THIS IS JUST PART OF THE SCHEME.
SINCE I'LL BE JOINING A TEAM, I SLIPPED IN FOR THE FIRST DAY TO TEST COMPATIBILITIES.

HUH?
WHAT PRIORITIES?
BUT YOU HATE IT, DON'T YOU?
LOOK, IF I DIDN'T TRY OUT FOR THE AUDITION, YOU, IZUMI-SAN, WOULD--
WHAT PRIORITY FORCED YOU TO COME HERE?
THAT DOESN'T MAKE ME HAPPY, DON'T YOU SEE!?
MAKING ME PUT UP WITH THIS CRAP BECAUSE MY OWN GIRL-FRIEND DOES EVERYTHING "FOR MY SAKE"...

APOLO-GIZE?
I HAVE TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU, IZUMI-SAN... ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED WITH SENSEI AND SEMPAI..
OH... OH YEAH!
I FINALLY GOT TO SEE IZUMI-SAN AND CAN'T CUT THROUGH THIS TENSION...
YASUKUNI-SAN TOLD ME.
WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS TO KEEP MY PRIORITIES STRAIGHT.
JUST LIKE YOU SAID, IZUMI-SAN, IT WAS THEIR PROBLEM, AND NONE OF MY BUSINESS...
.....
I'M SORRY FOR GIVING YOU SUCH A HARD TIME...

USING THESE IN-SEASON FLOWERS, TRY TO LET THEM BREATHE FREELY, PLEASE.
OH, IF YOU MAKE THIS A LITTLE SHORTER, IT'LL BE GOOD FOR IT.
CHATTER
CHATTER
IZUMI-SAN, YOU IDIOT!!
CLENCH
SAYING THAT...
...WHAT DOES HE WANT ME TO DO...!?

IZUMI-SA...
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?

HUH?
TO BE HONEST, YOU LOOK SO UNHAPPY. I WAS WORRIED...
NO, THAT'S NOT IT.
OH! I'M SORRY. IT'S MY FAULT FOR GETTING HURT...
CHISATO-SAN...
I'M NOT CUT OUT TO BE A TEACHER.
THIS REALLY IS PARTIALITY, ISN'T IT?
THINKING THIS AUDITION WILL MAKE THEIR DREAMS COME TRUE..
WELL, EVERYONE'S PUTTING IN ONE HUNDRED PERCENT EFFORT, RIGHT?
I GUESS I HAVE BEEN DEPRESSED A LITTLE...
I'M SORRY FOR WORRYING YOU...
CAN I ASK WHY?

GRUMBLE
GRUMBLE
DARN THAT IZUMI-SAN, DARN THAT IZUMI-SAN..
HIKARU-SAN, ARE YOU OKAY?
OW!
I said I'm fine.
WE HAVE TO GET THIS TREATED...
NO WAY! HOW SNEAKY!
THEY'RE FROM THE SAME SCHOOL
DO THOSE TWO KNOW EACH OTHER?
YEAH, I'M FINE.
I'M SORRY.. SINCE WE'RE FROM THE SAME SCHOOL..
...I WAS TOLD TO STAY AWAY FROM YOU TO AVOID ANY SUSPICION OF PARTIALITY, BUT...
SHE DIDN'T HAVE TO MAKE SUCH A BIG FUSS.
TH-THANKS...
THERE. MUCH BETTER.

CHISATO-SAN...
SORRY FOR TAKING THOSE WORDS FROM SOMEONE ELSE, THOUGH.
THANKS... I FEEL A LITTLE BETTER.
GOOD WORK ON THE PAST THREE DAYS OF TRAINING CAMP, EVERYONE.
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

THERE'S NO NEED TO RUSH.
IF YOU'RE RIDING THE RAIL AND SEE ANOTHER PATH, IT'S OKAY TO TAKE THAT ONE, TOO.
BECAUSE WHAT COMES AFTER BEING SWEPT AWAY, COULD BE EVEN MORE WONDERFUL.
SO TO HAVE ME, WHO HAS NO REAL DREAM, MIXED UP IN THIS...
...I JUST GOT SWEPT UP, AND THAT'S THE ONLY REASON I'M HERE...
BUT BY CHOOSING YOUR OWN PATH, YOU'LL MAKE IT ON YOUR OWN STRENGTH.
HUH?
YOU TOLD ME THAT, REMEMBER HIKARU-SAN?
WHEN I WAS WORRYING ABOUT MY FIANCÉ EARLIER THIS YEAR.

THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO...
BUT THOSE THREE TRIED THEIR BEST... AND THEY WERE GOOD AT DANCING.
SIGH
WHAT IS THIS... FEELING?

EVERY-ONE'S CRYING...

SILENCE
GULP
I WILL NOW ANNOUNCE THOSE MOVING ON TO THE FINAL SELECTION.
IF YOUR NAME IS CALLED, PLEASE COME FORWARD.
COMING.
HITOMI SEGAWA
NUMBER SEVEN, KEI SAITO.
SQUEEAL
NUMBER FOURTEEN, AI UEDA.
WHOA!
CONGRA-TULATIONS!
Oh, wow!
AND THE THIRD PERSON IS NUMBER FOUR, TOMOKO MISHIMA.
CHATTER
EEEE! NO WAY!
CHATTER
CHATTER
OH WELL .. IT WAS ALL FOR NOTHING ..

AND ALSO NUMBER FIFTEEN, HIKARU TAKABAYASHI.
I HAND-SELECTED THE FOURTH PERSON FOR SPECIAL RECOGNITION, MYSELF.

...CRYING...
WHETHER HAPPY OR SAD, THEY'RE...
FOR THEIR DREAMS..
SQUEEZE
I'M JEALOUS...

TENSHI JA NAI!!
天使じゃない!!
SCENE 35

A FOURTH PERSON? WHAT IS THAT ABOUT?
NOMINATED PERSONS, PLEASE LISTEN TO A D. FOR MORE ON THE FINAL SELECTION.
THAT IS ALL.
CHAPTER
I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING THIS TIME I'M SHOCKED, TOO!
NO WAY!
AKIZUKI, DON'T TELL ME YOU--

I... I WAS CHOSEN..?
THOUGH NOT AS SHOCKED AS THAT GIRL.
End of Scene 34

I TOLD TAKABA-YASHI-SAN...
"NO SPECIAL TREATMENT. MAKE YOUR WAY TO THE TOP YOURSELF!"
THE AUDITION'S FINAL SELECTION WILL BE IN A FEW DA—...
TCHK
SLINK
AND WITH ALL THE GIRLS COMING BACK FROM SUMMER VACATION, EVERYBODY'S IN AN UPROAR.
IZUKI-SAN'S TURNED OUR ROOM INTO A STAGE FOR HER SPEECHES...
CHATTER
WELL, EVERYBODY BUT ME, THAT IS.
CHATTER

Hiuffu
...I WAS A LITTLE HARSH
TO GET TAKABA-YASHI-SAN INTO THE FINAL SELEC-TION...
Ooooh!
I DIDN'T CARE WHO HATED ME FOR IT.
WHAT, ALL OF IT WAS THANKS TO MY SUPPORT?
IT LOOKS THAT WAY, I SUPPOSE, YES.

DON'T STAND OUT, YOU UGLY!
FOR HAVING THIS POSTER SHOT TAKEN, I...
Die ugly!
WHAT'S IZUMI-SAN DOING WITH THIS PICTURE?
I...!!

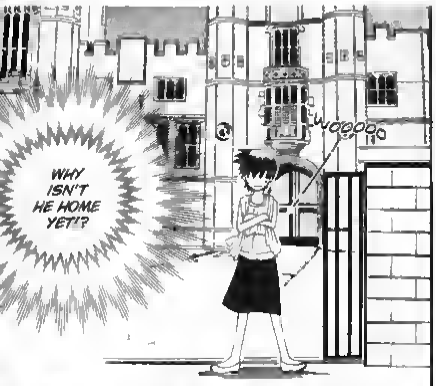
IZUMI-SAN AND I LEFT TRAINING CAMP ON BAD TERMS.
WOBBLE
よろっ
THAT'S RIGHT...I WAS ASKED BY YASUKUNI-SAN TO SEND IZUMI-SAN A CHANGE OF CLOTHES.
THIS...
A PICTURE POST-CARD?

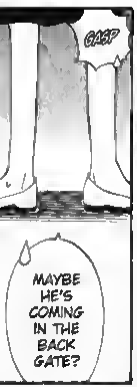
TAKABAYASHI-SAN'S CHANCE OF BEING CHOSEN...
...WAS TEN THOUSAND TO ONE!
THE TRAINING CAMP WAS JUST AS I THOUGHT, A GATHERING OF CHOSEN ONES.
WHOMM...
BUT I KEPT PUSHING AND PRAISING HER AND NEVER GAVE UP!
THANKS
WE'LL BE CHEERING YOU ON!
OH, THANKS
THE REPORT ON THE TRAINING CAMP WAS INTERESTING.
TAKABA-YASHI-SAN, GOOD LUCK WITH THE AUDITION!

My Current Addictions
I bought the Hot Sandwich Maker I've had my eye on for a while now. Presently, it's getting rave reviews at my workplace. I can put ham and cheese in it... or tuna and ham... Actually, I've been meaning to try more creative combos in it lately...
His pet-name's Tony
By the way, next time I'm going to make waffles with my assistant's. And tai-yaki* are also on our list of things to make. Tony's so great with his speedy cooking.
*See translator's notes
HAAAAAAH...
EXHAUSTED
HIKARU-SAN, YOU LOOK SO PALE!
WE DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS, NOW...
HUH? OH, NO, I'M FINE.

Message:
I got off early today so I'm going home now.
SQUIRM
UM...
SQUIRM
Ah! A MESS-AGE
BRRRR BRRRR
HUH? OH, I SEE...
RUSH
RUSH
CHISATO-SAN, I'M SORRY. I GUESS I REALLY WILL DO THIS LATER.
IZUMI-SAN'S COMING HOME, SO I'VE GOTTA CLEAN HER ROOM
I'M REALLY SORRY.
NO PROB.
I SEE.. IZUMI-SAN, HUH?

I HAD BAD DREAMS LAST NIGHT AND COULDN'T SLEEP.
OH, WELL THEN, HIKARU-SAN...
HM?
YEAH...
YOU COULDN'T?
IF IT'S ALRIGHT, UM...
.. YOU COULD PUT YOUR HEAD ON MY LAP AND SLEEP NOW...
FIDGET FIDGET

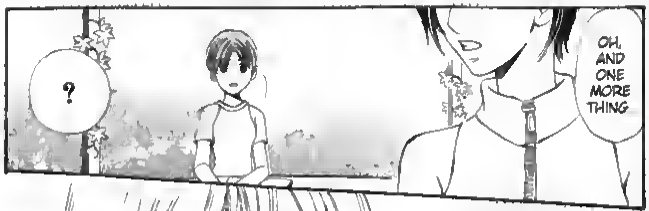

WHY ISN'T HE HOME YET!?
YOOOOO


GASP
MAYBE HE'S COMING IN THE BACK GATE?

HE SHOULD'VE BEEN HOME HOURS AGO.

SHOOOSH
OH, I WAS HOPING TO SURPRISE HIM!
DASH!

AIR OUT THE ROOM: CHECK!
BRING THE DRIED FUTON BACK IN: CHECK!
POLISH IZUMI-SAN'S FAVORITE TEA SET: CHECK!
--BUT ...


?
OH, AND ONE MORE THING

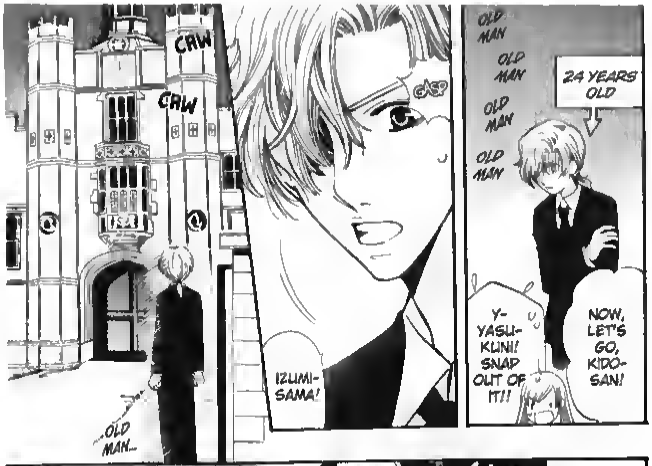
THANKS AS ALWAYS, CHISATO-SAN
HIKARU-SAN LOOKS HER BEST WHEN SHE SMILES...
Tee hee hee!
Hee hee!

DRAG
You're our honored guest!
WE'RE ABOUT TO PUT ON THE "AFTERNOON SEGEMENT OF THE PUBLIC PERFORMANCE ON THE TRAINING CAMP."
PERFECT TIMING!
IF IT ISN'T IZUMI KIDO.
NO, LOOK, I UH...
WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR YOUR SIDE OF IT, IZUMI-SAMA
SEE? DIDN'T I TELL YOU? I KNEW IT WAS KIDO-SAN'S CAR.
ENTER
I'M SORRY, EVERYONE, BUT IZUMI-SAMA IS EXHAUSTED.
YASU-KUN!
QUIET, YOU OLD MAN!
STAB

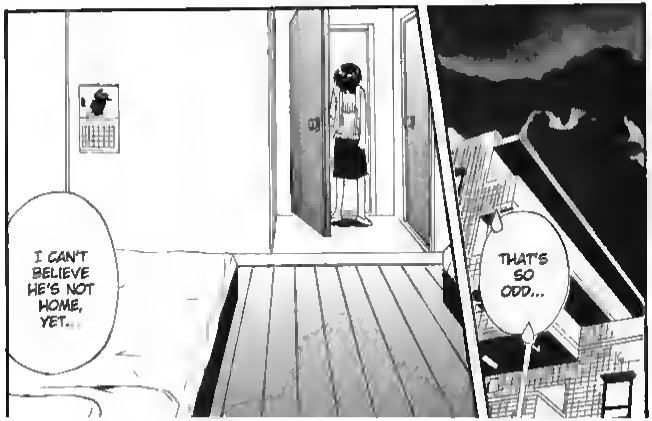
PHEW...
IT FEELS LIKE I'VE BEEN GONE FOREVER.
AND I HAVEN'T SEEN HIKARU IN SO LONG...
IZUMI-SAMA, I'LL TAKE THE LUGGAGE INSIDE. YOU GO AND GET SOME REST.
THANKS..
WELL, WELL!

AAAAH
FLOP
GASP
OH YEAH, MY PHONE!
OH.
No power.
IF I WAIT HERE, HE HAS TO COME BACK SOMETIME.
OH, WELL.

YAWN
BOY AM I TIRED.
I DIDN'T SLEEP MUCH YESTERDAY...
A LITTLE NAP WON'T HURT...
THE SUN...
IZUMI-SAN'S SMELL...
NN..

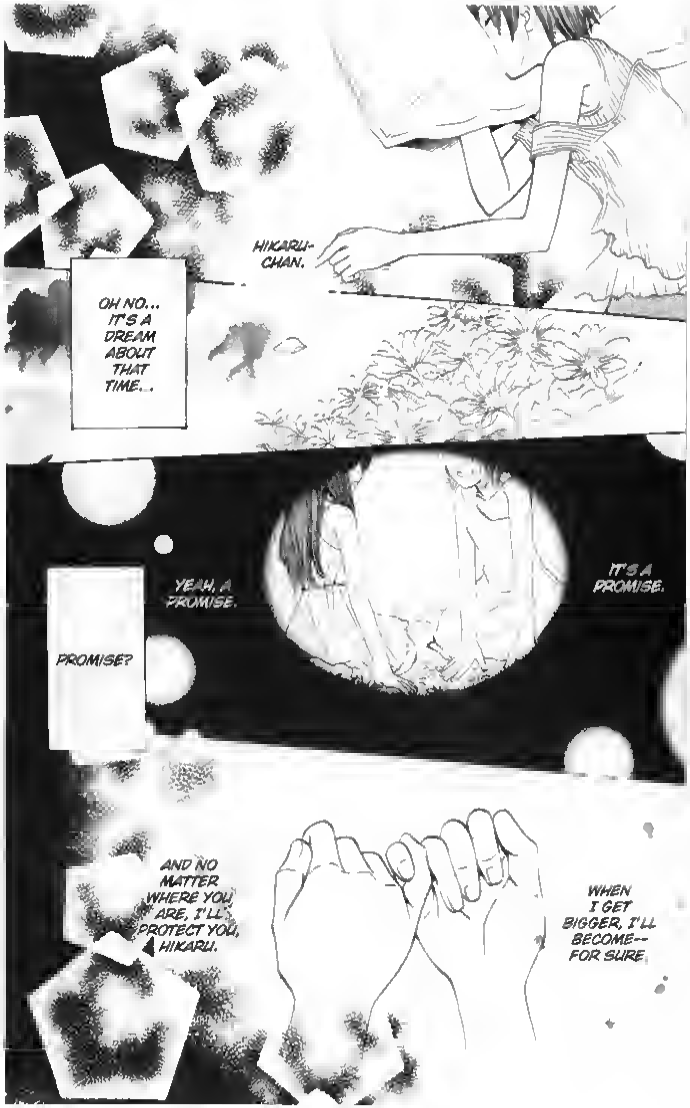

CAW
CAW
GASP
IZUMI-SAMA!
OLD MAN...
OLD MAN
OLD MAN
OLD MAN
OLD MAN
24 YEARS OLD
Y-YASU-KUN! SNAP OUT OF IT!!
NOW, LET'S GO, KIDO-SAN!

MEANWHILE AT THE BACK GATE
HE ISN'T COMING, IS HE
ひゅーーー
WOOOO


I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'S NOT HOME, YET...
THAT'S SO ODD...

K-CLIK
SO THIS IS WHERE HIKARU'S BEEN HIDING...

DO I KNOW THAT KID?
PINKY SWEAR.
WHO WAS THAT?


OH NO... IT'S A DREAM ABOUT THAT TIME..
HIKARU-CHAN.
PROMISE?
YEAH, A PROMISE.
IT'S A PROMISE.
AND NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE, I'LL PROTECT YOU, HIKARU.
WHEN I GET BIGGER, I'LL BECOME-- FOR SURE.

HIKARU?
IT'S IZUMI-SAN...
THANK GOD...I DIDN'T LIKE... LEAVING YOU IN A FIGHT.
WE WEREN'T FIGHTING.
I WAS BEING SILLY...

SHEESH... I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE'S SLEEPING WHILE I WAS HELD CAPTIVE BY IZUKI AND THOSE GIRLS...
HEY, YOU AWAKE?
MMM... IZUMI-SAN?
HIKARU?

I WON'T DO ANY-THING TODAY
A KISS IS MORE THAN ENOUGH.
NN
I WANT YOU TO DO SO MUCH
TO MAKE UP FOR ALL THE LONELY TIME WHEN I COULDN'T SEE YOU...
BUT I HAVE NO STRENGTH...
...IZUMI-SAN.

LET'S STOP IT... WE'RE WASTING PRECIOUS TIME
WE HAVE SO LITTLE TIME TOGETHER.
YEAH
HEY, YOU AWAKE, HIKARU?
IIZ
I'M AWAKE, IZUMI-SAN..

CLICK
I WONDER IF IZUMI-SAN ALREADY WENT TO WORK...
KNOCK KNOCK
BUT HOW SHOULD I BE WHEN I SEE IZUMI-SAN AGAIN...?
NO, IT'S OKAY. YEAH, I MEAN, WE'RE GOING OUT AND ALL.
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
TAKA-BAYASHI-SAN... SO THIS IS WHERE YOU WERE SLEEPING!
AIR MAIL?
MORE IMPORT-ANTLY, HERE'S AN AIR MAIL LETTER FOR YOU.
SLEEPING IN SOMEONE ELSE'S ROOM IS AGAINST DORM POLICIES, BUT I'LL LET IT PASS THIS TIME
OH, SPEAKING OF WHICH .
YOU HAD YOUR MOM SIGN HER PERMISSION FOR YOU TO BE IN THE AUDITION, DIDN'T YOU?

CHIRP
CHIRP
JOLT
I'M ALONE.
WAS THAT.. A DREAM?
A dream!? A hallucination!?
I THINK I DID SOMETHING REALLY EM-BARRASSING YESTERDAY!!
BUT WASN'T IZUMI-SAN ALL OVER ME?

...I'D BE SO HAPPY!
IF A LOTTA PEOPLE LIKE ME...
CUZ EVEN IF I DIDN'T HAVE YOU, MOM, I'D NEVER BE LONELY.
AND YOU'D ALSO TALK ABOUT IT MAKING YOU RICH.
I SAID THAT?
I DON'T REMEMBER THAT AT ALL.
AFTER MODELING FOR THAT POSTER, I GOT BULLIED AT SCHOOL, SO...
"IF A LOTTA PEOPLE LIKE ME" ...HUH?
...I TRIED TO FORGET ALL ABOUT THAT TIME...

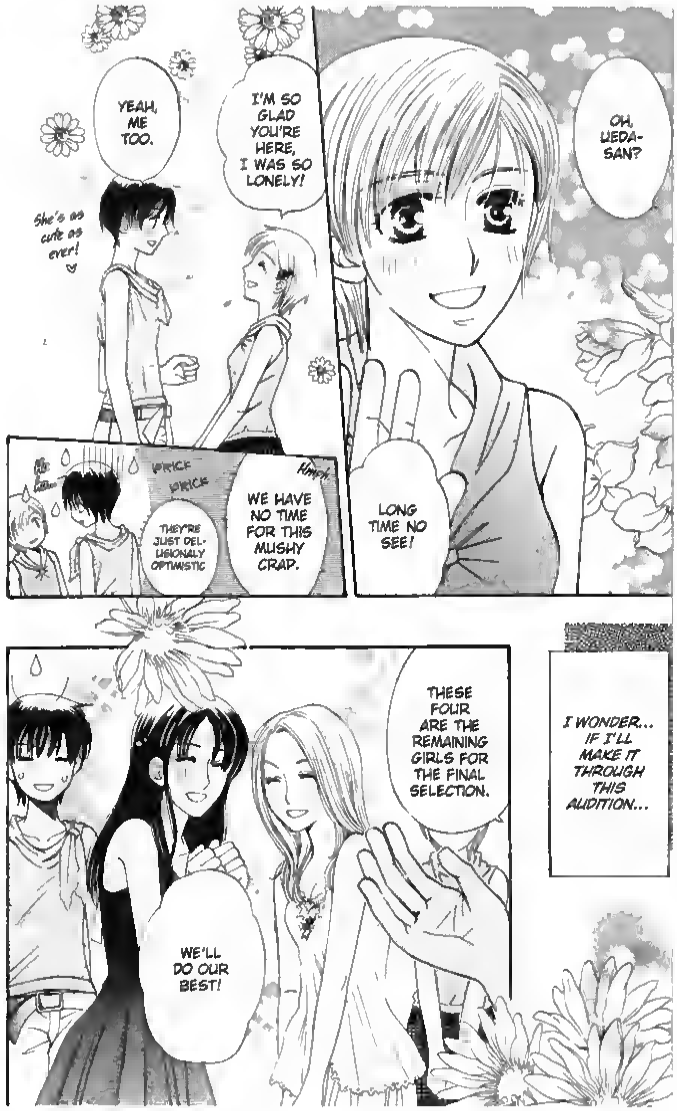
IT'S ALL YOU TALKED ABOUT WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE, HIKARU
HOW YOU LOVED BEING A MODEL AND COULDN'T WAIT TO BECOME AN IDOL.
HUH?
YOU'D LOOK AT THE POSTER OF YOURSELF AND TALK ABOUT HOW GLAD YOU'D BE TO HAVE SO MANY PEOPLE LIKE YOU.
HI, MOM?
YEAH, I GOT IT TODAY. THANKS.
I'M SO GLAD I MADE IT IN TIME!
UGH!
YOUR PROUD MOMMY ASKED YOUR BROTHER TO VIDEOTAPE IT FOR US, TOO.
Y-YOU DID?
YES... YOUR MOMMY'S SO HAPPY FOR YOU!
HUH?

SILENCE
I wonder what's wrong with Yasukuni-san.
GOOD MORNI...
NGGGG ...!?

TENSE
TENSE
JEEZ, IT'S TENSE IN HERE!!
OH, TAKABA-YASHI-SAN!

LITTLE KIDS ARE SO SIMPLE...
THE DAY OF THE AUDITION
TURN
NO...THE AUDIENCE IS JUST FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
I'll cheer you on from the shadows.
YES!
PLEASE CHEER FOR ME FROM THE AUDIENCE, YASUKUNI-SAN
WELL THEN, GOOD LUCK, HIKARU-SAN.

HI, THERE!
YO!
IT'S HABAKURO'S HABASHI-SAN AND KUROBE-SAN, AND IZUMI KIDO-SAN.
AND YOU ALREADY KNOW THESE PEOPLE
JEEZ, WHAT A MOOD CHANGE!!
U-um, nice to meet you.
YOU DON'T SAY
YOU'RE EVEN BETTER LOOKING IN REAL-LIFE!
Omigod!!
I'M A HUGE FAN!
HEY, LONG TIME NO SEE, HIKARU.
CHILL


OH, UEDA-SAN?
LONG TIME NO SEE!
I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE, I WAS SO LONELY!
YEAH, ME TOO.
She's as cute as ever!
WE HAVE NO TIME FOR THIS MUSHY CRAP.
THEY'RE JUST DELUSIONALLY OPTIMISTIC
THESE FOUR ARE THE REMAINING GIRLS FOR THE FINAL SELECTION.
I WONDER... IF I'LL MAKE IT THROUGH THIS AUDITION...
WE'LL DO OUR BEST!

AUDITION, MY BUTT! EVEN IF I PASSED, IT'D BE NO GOOD!
IRF
IRF
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO YOU KNOW.
THEN WHY DON'T YOU QUIT?
IT'S PERFECTLY NATURAL FOR PEOPLE TO USE THEIR CONNECTIONS.
BECAUSE IN THE END, WITHOUT REAL TALENT, NOBODY WILL CARE ABOUT YOU AT ALL.
THEY'RE SERIOUS.

AH! IF IT ISN'T HIKARU-CHAN!
Long time no see!
STEP?
BLUSH
D-DON'T WHISPER IN MY EAR!
IS THAT 'COZ YOU FELT SOME-THING?
You gave me goose-bumps!
THAT DAMN HABASHI-SAN, ALWAYS MAKING FUN OF PEOPLE. .
GRUMBLE
Hack!
GRUMBLE
THEY'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING.
EXHAUSTED
MEH
SLIP
THE SHOW HASN'T EVEN STARTED AND I'M ALREADY TIRED..
OKAY THEN, I'LL COME GET YOU BEFORE THE SHOW STARTS, SO GET YOUR-SELVES READY.
YOU'RE PRETTY TIGHT WITH THE SPONSOR'S GRAND-DAUGHTER.
THIS WAS NEVER ANY KIND OF REAL CONTEST, WAS IT?
SO WHAT IS THIS? THIS AUDITION WAS ALL ABOUT CONNECTIONS?

NUMBER FOURTEEN, AI IIEDA!
NUMBER SEVEN, KEI SAITO!
AND NUMBER FIFTEEN, HIKARU TAKABAYASHI!

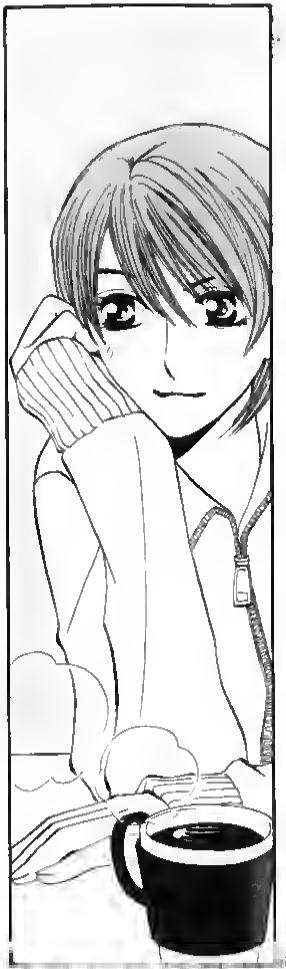
I HAVE TO MAKE A GOOD IM-PRESSION!!
IT'D BE RUDE TO THINK THEY'RE REALLY LIKE THIS.
IT'S JUST LIKE IZUMI-SAN SAID.
AND HERE ARE OUR FOUR FINALISTS!
FIRST IS NUMBER FOUR, TOMOKO MISHIMA!
EVERY-BODY'S DESPERATE.
SINCE I WAS ACTUALLY CHOSEN..
CLAP
CLAP

HUH? G-GO RIGHT AHEAD WHERE?
SHOCK
INTRO-DUCE YOUR-SELF.
OH... INTRODUCE... RIGHT, I'M...
SHE'S ABOUT TO FALL APART!
CALM DOWN.
CALM DOWN.
YOU CAN'T EMBARRASS YOURSELF NOW.
CALM DOWN!!
OKAY, NEXT IS NUMBER FIFTEEN, GO RIGHT AHEAD.
...WHO AM I!?
PANIC
PANIC
I'M...

CHATTER
CHATTER
WHOA.
FIRST, OUR CONTESTANTS WILL INTRO-DUCE THEM-SELVES
IT'S SO BRIGHT
FREEZE
WHAT AM I DOING HERE?
MY FACE IS BURN-ING.
SWEAT
BLUR
SWEAT
SWEAT
WHAT?
SWEAT
HUFF
HUFF
...THAN I'D IMAG-INED!!
THUMP THUMP THUMP THUMP
WHAT IS THIS? I'M EVEN MORE NERVOUS...

WITH IZUMI KIDO-CHAN!
SQUEAL
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
Izumi-chaaaaan!
A LOT-TERY?
DA DA DA DA DA!
HERE ARE THE FIRST-ROUND RESULTS.
THEY WILL EACH CHOOSE A SITUATION CARD FROM HERE...
.. AND ACT OUT AN IMPROVISED DRAMA.
NUMBER FOUR-TEEN IS THE "LITTLE SISTER."
RIVAL
NUMBER SEVEN IS THE "RIVAL."
NUMBER FOUR IS THE "BEST FRIEND."

SMACK
DON'T PASS OUT!
I AM SO LAME...
I'M HIKARU TAKABA-YASHI! I'M SIXTEEN YEARS OLD
YOU'RE MAKING YOURSELF TOO EASY A TARGET
You crazy girl.
YOU GET TOO NERVOUS.
Y... YEAH.
AAW, SHE DID NOT!
PFFT
...DIDN'T SHE WAKE RIGHT UP!
BUT, WELL...
Heh...
BEST REGARDS



"That's right... Let's go to Uji!" PART 2

So we got off at Uji Station. The moment we stepped off the train, we were struck dumb by Uji Station's futuristic design. The three of us made the quiet Uji Station into quite a thriving place...

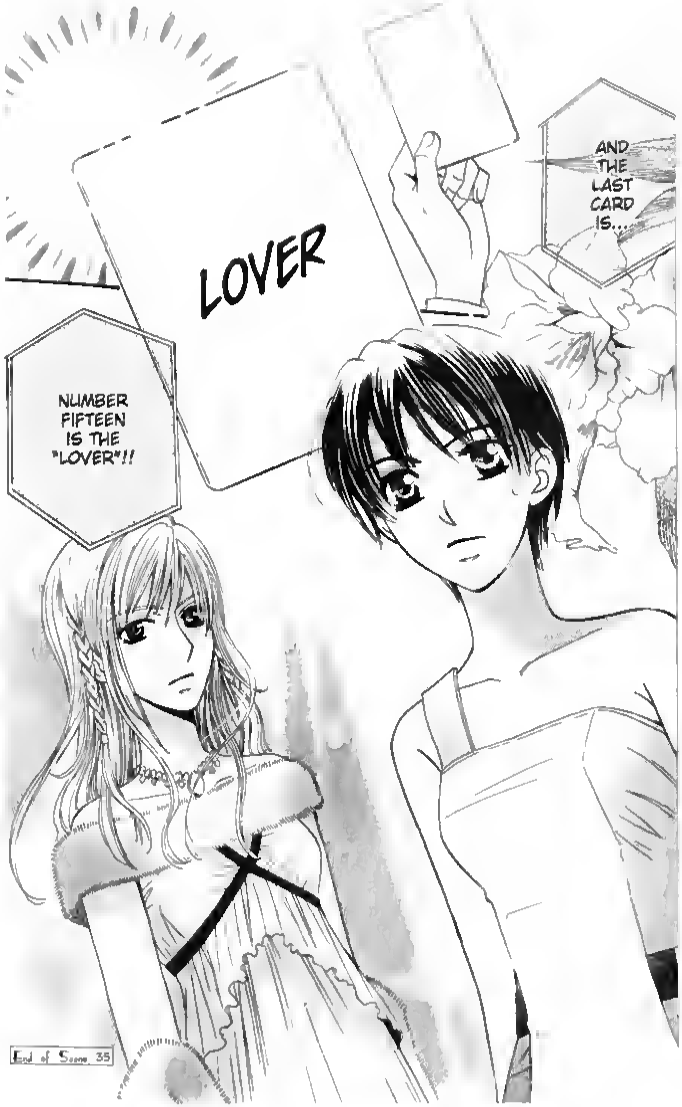
...as we made our way to our goal of that tea shop. Taking about 10 minutes to find it from our simple map and then being saved by a married couple who happened upon us, we made it to the tea shop. And ate with much excitement.

The green-tea parfait that the assistants ate, and the autumn green tea parfait were delicious!

"I'm definitely coming here again!"

This is what we three vowed in our hearts as we ate our zenzai*. Next time we come, we're going to do sightseeing early in the morning and then eat chasoba*!! I bought tea as a souvenir on the trip home. It was a 2-1/2 hour short x3 trip (?).

*See translator's notes



Translator's Notes

Pg. 36 – *burusera*
A short-hand term combining the English words "bloomer" and "sailor" in Japanese pronunciation. This refers to the school uniforms worn in Japanese high schools and has also come to mean shops which sell young girls' clothing to dirty old men.

Pg. 157 – *taiyaki*
Literally "baked sea bream," this is a Japanese fish-shaped cake with red bean paste filling, though chocolate or custard can also be used.

Pg. 190 – *warabimochi*
A popular sweet in the Kansai area that is a translucent cool jelly with a soft and chewy texture.

Pg. 190 – *zenzai* and *chasoba*
Zenzai is a soft, sweet bean-jam dessert. Chasoba or "green tea noodles" are regular soba noodles that have been prepared with green tea powder.

Afterword and Special Thanks!

To all who read "Tenshi Jo Nai!!" volume 7, thank you very much! The messages appearing on my homepage's BBS have been not only from people in Japan but from Korea, Taiwan, and other places abroad and so this has served as a picker-upper for me. So that I can give a little of that picker-upper energy back to you, I'm gonna try hard from now on, too!

Also to my assistants who saved me, Hariguchi-san, Hotayama-san, and my manager who always supports me, Suguwara-san: thank you and the best of regards from now on too!

December 18, 2005 - Takako Shigematsu

I'm awaiting your letters

Go! Media Entertainment
5737 Kanon Rd. #591
Agoura Hills, CA 91301
Homepage URL is:
http://www5b.biglobe.ne.jp/~taka_s/index.html

As the story comes to an end...

...Izumi and Hikaru's *real* problems are just starting!

Find out what happens in the FINAL volume of TENSHI JA NAI!

TENSHI JA NAI!!

Changes abound at Seika Academy this year...including new dorm arrangements! They say absence makes the heart grow fonder, but will this hold true for Izumi and Hikaru – especially when Ayase and Ukyo drop in for a surprise visit? Izumi's worried that Hikaru's feelings for her beloved sensei will rekindle, but poor Hikaru has other things on her mind: she's just been forced into competing in a pop star contest!

$10.99 USA

$10.99
ISBN 978-1-933617-27-5
51099>
9 781933 617275

go!comi

visit our website at www.gocomi.com

RATED OT
OLDER TEEN
16+